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NO DOPE



— a look at the
hard drugs scene

THE JERUSALEM POST

Vol. LIV, No. 16147 Friday, February 21, 1986 • Adar I 12, 5746 • Jomada Tani 12, 1406 NIS 1.12 (Eilat NIS 0.95)

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NEXT WEEK in the Post

SUNDAY



Breaking up is so hard
— divorce can be a less
horrendous business —
in the Today page

MONDAY
Wheelchair wrangle —
in the Law Report

TUESDAY
Greek glory's Semitic
roots — Abraham
Rabinovich writes

WEDNESDAY
The Jewish World

THURSDAY
An expanded, 10-page
Post, including
foreign features and
an extra economic
page.

Likud charges Labour using economy to foment crisis

By SARAH HONIG
and ROY ISACOWITZ
Post Political Correspondents

TEL AVIV. — Sources close to Vice-Premier Shamir say Prime Minister Peres and the Labour Party may be seeking to foment a coalition crisis with an eye to bringing down the national unity government and re-negating on the rotation agreement.

The sources told *The Jerusalem Post* that such a crisis would be "so artificial and baseless that the public would not accept it. It would become a boomerang that would only damage Labour."

Peres and his fellow-Labourites have been heaping criticism on the Likud in recent days, mainly on the issue of the economy. Labour Party ministers were meeting last night to discuss the coalition tension, and Likud ministers are to confer on the matter today.

Labour yesterday threw its weight solidly behind a policy of immediate economic growth, in anticipation of Peres's planned cabinet showdown with the Likud on Sunday.

The Likud, and particularly Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, came in for strong criticism during a meeting of the Labour Knesset caucus and a subsequent meeting of the party's central committee yesterday. But there was little indication in either forum that the party was aiming to bring down the government over the growth issue.

Peres told the central committee that he would not continue to serve in a government which "destroys industry, agriculture and the settlement movement." He also rejected Moda'i's contention that a growth policy should be deferred for another year to allow the economy to stabilize further.

"We cannot wait a year," Peres said. "Entire sectors of the economy are in danger of collapsing within weeks."

Sources close to Peres told *The* (Continued on Page 13)



An IDF soldier stands watch over villagers in South Lebanon during a curfew.

(Eli Hershkovitz)

IDF likely to stay over the weekend

The IDF will apparently continue its operations north of the security zone in Lebanon, combing the area today and possibly through the weekend.

One factor militating against the continuing operation is the mounting Israeli casualty rate. Additional factors are the intensified friction with the Shi'ite community in the area; the economic cost of the operation; the increasing tension with Unifil; and the growing doubt that the two abducted soldiers Yossi Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh, can still be found.

Defence policy makers have been stunned by the huge quantities of weapons and ammunition that they have uncovered in the 20 Shi'ite villages combed since Monday noon, when thousands of IDF soldiers, aided by units from the South Lebanese Army, launched the search for Fink and Alsheikh. In Sultaniya alone some 100 Katyusha rockets were found yesterday; these rockets can reach targets deep inside Israel.

Army officers believe that there is much more to be found. Also,

ANALYSIS

HIRSH GOODMAN

dozens of terrorists have either been killed or captured, and the feeling is that serious damage has been done to the burgeoning terrorist infrastructure that was developing north of the security zone.

These officers further claim that fears of a mass Shi'ite uprising against the IDF, unless the operation ends soon, are exaggerated. The Shi'ites in the areas being searched, they claim, understand that the mop-up operation that has developed from the original search is aimed only against radical elements, and not against the mainstream Shi'ite community who are "as interested as Israel is in getting rid of radical and fundamentalist elements near the security zone."

Consequently, say the officers, the IDF has enough time "to do a thorough job north of the security zone before the Shi'ite community again unites against us. A few days here or there makes little difference," they argue.

In this operation thousands of troops, backed by artillery and tanks are roaming through Lebanon in search of Fink and Alsheikh, but also in search of terrorists and ordnance.

The longer the IDF remains over the northern border, the greater the chances of serious long-term destabilization in the security zone which has proved itself worthwhile in the 10 months since the IDF withdrew from its costly three-year engagement in Lebanon.

If the operation continues for only a few more days, the delicate balance that has made the security zone effective will not be disturbed. If the operation lasts longer than a few days, however, we could be faced with a totally different reality," one source said, "especially if evidence comes to light that the two missing men are either not in the area of operation or dead. In that case we have no option but to withdraw — no matter how beneficial the other results." (See back page)

Second soldier dies as army combs villages in S. Lebanon

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
and JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporters
and Agencies

The second IDF soldier to be killed during the massive search operation north of the security zone that began on Monday, was shot yesterday when an IDF patrol was ambushed by Shi'ite gunmen on the outskirts of the village of Sreifa, 24 kilometres north of the border. Local resistance to the operation intensified yesterday.

House-to-house searches have turned up large weapons caches since the operation began. Yesterday, about 100 long-range Katyusha rockets were discovered in Sultaniya. Dozens of men suspected of belonging to hostile organizations have been detained during the week. Hizbollah offices in several places were blown up.

Samal Alon Ben-Shahar, 19, of Jerusalem was killed around noon when Shi'ite gunmen blasted an Israeli unit with bazooka and machine-gun fire for an hour. Eight of the attackers were killed as the IDF returned fire, and continued to slay the village and its surroundings for another four hours with tanks, artillery and helicopter gunships.

Ben-Shahar's funeral will be held at 1 p.m. today at the Mt. Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem.

Two groups, the Islamic Resistance Front and the Shi'ite militia Amal, announced that their men had carried out the attack. Reuters reported that during the fighting the area around the village was swarming with local gunmen wearing black

headbands and armed with automatic weapons, hand grenades and anti-tank weapons.

Katyusha rockets were fired at the western Galilee last night, apparently from north of the security zone. No one was hurt and no damage was done. Earlier yesterday, two Katyushas fell on the South Lebanon town of Marjayoun, and others hit the village of Ya'atar in the security zone.

On the second day of the operation to locate the two Israeli soldiers abducted by the extremist Hizbollah organization, Rav-Turai Daniel Amar was killed when his Dabur patrol boat neared the coastline north of Tyre.

BULLETIN

Katyusha rockets landed in the Galilee Panhandle after midnight last night. There were no injuries or damages.

Prime Minister Peres said yesterday in an address to the Labour Party Central Committee in Tel Aviv that the operation would continue until some trace was found of the two missing soldiers. He said that Israel was engaged in a bitter struggle with Shi'ite terror and would continue to fight against it.

In Beirut yesterday, Reuters reported that loudspeaker vans drove through the southern Shi'ite suburbs of the city announcing that the Islamic Resistance Front had killed one of the two kidnapped soldiers, but did not give his name. The recorded statement said that the captive had been "executed" because Israel had failed to heed an ultimatum to end its (Continued on Page 13)



Israel's first Ambassador to Spain, Samuel Hadas, arrives by horse-drawn coach at the Royal Palace in Madrid yesterday to present his credentials to King Juan Carlos.

Envoy to Spain presents his credentials

By BENNY MORRIS
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel's first ambassador to Spain, Samuel Hadas, yesterday presented his credentials to King Juan Carlos in an unusually well-publicized and warm reception in the royal palace.

According to the embassy's deputy chief of mission, Mordechai Amihai, who attended the reception, the king and Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez spoke privately for some 15 minutes with Hadas after the official ceremony. In these ceremonies, rigidly controlled by protocol, the private conversation with the king usually lasts 5-8 minutes.

Spanish state television gave unusually full coverage to the ceremony. The presentation of credentials by the East German ambassador earlier in the day, for example, was not even mentioned in the electronic media.

The ceremony began with Hadas and Amihai riding in open coaches to the royal palace, where they were greeted by a guard of honour and an orchestra playing *Hailkiva*.

The reception after the ceremony in Hadas's flat was attended by Camillo Jose Cela, considered Spain's leading man of letters, by opposition leader Manuel Fraga, and by Spanish Foreign Ministry officials.

Afterwards, Hadas went to watch the Maccabi Tel Aviv-Real Madrid basketball game.

Meanwhile, in Israel, Spanish chargé d'affaires Juan Lopez de Chicheri was reportedly still busy looking for appropriate premises in Tel Aviv for the embassy and the ambassador's residence.

The ambassador, Pedro Lopez Aguirrebeaga, formerly Madrid's ambassador to Athens, is expected to arrive and present his credentials next month.

Egypt tries to heal PLO-Jordan split

CAIRO. — Egypt will try to heal the rift between Jordan and the PLO after King Hussein called off efforts towards a joint strategy for Arab-Israeli peace, Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid said yesterday.

Abdel-Meguid spoke after meeting with Jordanian Ambassador Hussein Hammami to discuss Hussein's speech on Wednesday.

"We are trying to bring Palestinian and Jordanian views closer," Abdel-Meguid told reporters.

In Amman yesterday, diplomats said they expected Hussein to make his next Middle East peace move through an Arab summit.

Meanwhile, Yasser Arafat and his top aides met in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad yesterday to study the implications of Hussein's speech. Arafat has so far refused comment on the king's declaration.

Syria, a bitter opponent of any Jordan-PLO coordination, ignored Hussein's speech, although Damascus newspapers reported it briefly without comment.

Radical Palestinian terrorist groups yesterday accused Hussein of attempting to split Palestinian ranks.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Palestine Communist Party said the king was seeking to establish an alternative leadership to the PLO.

"It is an overt invitation aimed at splitting the ranks of Palestinians between those living in the West Bank and Gaza and those outside," they said in a joint statement.

A delegation of British trade union members said in Amman yesterday that Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had made it clear they would accept only the PLO as their representative at any peace talks.

The five-man group had just returned from a visit to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

(Reuters, AP)

Peres says it's now up to W. Bank, Gaza residents

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN,
ROY ISACOWITZ
and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

TEL AVIV. — King Hussein's speech Wednesday was the strongest condemnation of the PLO's role in blocking peace ever made by a responsible Arab leader, Prime Minister Peres said yesterday.

"Until now we've been attacked for not negotiating with the PLO. Hussein has been negotiating with the PLO for a year, and what did he get out of it? Peres said, addressing lawyers here.

"I already said weeks ago that Arafat has nothing to offer the residents of the administered territories and Hussein fully confirmed what Europe, too, will realize now: that the PLO does not want to solve the Palestinian problem, but to exploit it in order to maintain its organization."

It was now up to the residents of the West Bank and Gaza to take matters into their own hands and start representing themselves. Peres said in a separate address at Tel Aviv University.

Likud sources, who were agreed

that the speech did nothing to advance the cause of peace, nevertheless pointedly refrained from attacking Labour's responses, apparently in an effort to avoid exacerbating coalition disputes. (See story, page 3)

The general reaction in Labour was satisfaction that the so-called "PLO option" had been discredited, tempered by an awareness that peace talks with Jordan appeared no nearer.

But Labour MK Micha Harish, who heads the committee preparing his party's diplomatic position paper, said the speech could herald a new peace initiative. He cautioned, however, that it would be several weeks at least before the speech's effects became clear.

Israel must now begin "thinking unilaterally," Harish said, meaning unilateral autonomy, or independent negotiations with Palestinians in the West Bank or in Jordan.

Labour's programme on the territories will only be drawn up in late March, on the eve of the party's convention.

Labour MKs also said that, while (Continued on Page 13)

'A time for reflection'

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — The U.S. yesterday said there would now be a pause in the Arab-Israeli peace process.

"It's obvious that we have embarked upon a period of reflection on the part of all parties," the State Department said in reaction to King Hussein's speech on Wednesday.

Spokesman Charles Redman made it clear that the U.S., like Hussein, blames the PLO for the failure to get negotiations off the ground.

He confirmed Hussein's assertions that the U.S. had privately promised to invite the PLO to the negotiating table if it accepted UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Redman noted that the entire question was now "moot" since "the PLO leadership has failed to seize the opportunity offered it." He declined to say whether the U.S. had won a commitment from Israel that it would support such an invitation to the PLO if it had met those conditions. (See story, page 3)

Soviets launch permanent space station

MOSCOW. — The Soviet Union yesterday sent a large new space vehicle into orbit and announced it would be the heart of the world's first permanently manned space station.

Western experts said the launching underlined the Soviet Union's steady progress towards its goal of a

permanent station, while the U.S. has concentrated on a more spectacular manned programme.

The Mir (peace) craft, which can dock with six other vehicles simultaneously, was blasted into orbit unmanned from the Baikonur Space Centre in central Asia without any advanced publicity.

Syria accused of harming Iraq war effort

Post Middle East staff
Baghdad is accusing Syria of trying to induce the leaders of the Gulf states to stop their material and moral support of Iraq.

Without mentioning Syria by name, Baghdad radio said yesterday

that "leaders of Arab nationality had presented this demand to the Gulf leaders and promised them in return to secure a pledge from Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini to abandon his plan to expand the war in the Gulf." (Earlier report — page 4)

New Hands down on the farm

Special to Jerusalem Post readers: Kibbutz Industries, an eight-page supplement filled with an array of stories on new technological directions down on the farm, this Wednesday, free with

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AMSTERDAM	-10	-14	-6	Snow
BRUSSELS	-12	-16	-8	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	18	14	22	Cloudy
CHICAGO	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
GENEVA	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
HELSINKI	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
HONG KONG	18	14	22	Cloudy
JAKARTA	22	18	26	Cloudy
LONDON	-12	-16	-8	Cloudy
MADRID	-12	-16	-8	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
OSLO	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
PARIS	-12	-16	-8	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	22	18	26	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	22	18	26	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-18	-22	-14	Cloudy
TOKYO	18	14	22	Cloudy
YOKOHAMA	18	14	22	Cloudy
ZURICH	-12	-16	-8	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear with a slight drop in temperatures.
Outlook for Shabbat: an additional drop in temperature.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	34	5-19	16
Galil	29	7-19	16
Nahariya	32	9-17	21
Safed	38	10-23	24
Haifa Port	38	10-23	21
Tiberias	31	7-21	18
Nazareth	31	12-21	20
Afula	45	3-24	21
Shomron	30	6-21	18
Tel Aviv	39	10-22	20
B-G Airport	42	8-24	22
Jericho	33	7-24	22
Gaza	31	12-24	20
Beer Sheva	19	8-24	21
Eilat	13	10-26	25

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi will be the guest speaker at the Haifa Maritime and Economic Club's luncheon meeting in the Zion Hotel at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations: Phone 537766.

Birth

Liraz and Aylon Infeld announce the birth of a baby boy on February 14 in Jerusalem, grandson to Mordechai and Edna Eshel and Abraham and Ellen Infeld, great-grandson to Olga, Sylvia, Leah and Yehudit.

Marriage

The Silverman, Alon and Limor families are happy to announce the marriage of Ann Silverman to Gilead Limor, in Jerusalem on February 18, within the family circle.

Fast trials net record fines for price gouging

Over NIS 70 million in fines were imposed on price gougers in January by courts around the country, a spokesman for the Industry and Trade Ministry said yesterday.

Ministry price inspectors, he said, carried out 17,000 surprise visits to places of business during the month, netting 552 traders who had overcharged.

In special summary tribunals, stiff fines were imposed on violators: one Tel Aviv restaurateur was fined NIS 1,500 for illegally raising menu prices, and a grocer was fined the same amount for overcharging on pasta.

The ministry spokesman said the fast trial system was proving a successful deterrent to uncontrolled price rises, and was helping to stabilize the economy. (Itim)

EMERGENCY CARE. - The emergency ward of Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital will now take care of foreign tourists who need treatment. 24 hours a day, even if the hospital is full, the ward will accept their treatment. Tourists must bring their passports, and the fees charged will be those set by the Health Ministry for non-residents.

For Sale

The British Consulate-General has for sale, by tender, the following vehicle: Ford Cortina L, 1600 cc, 1981 Model, Estate Car. Offers should be made by sealed tender, addressed to the Administration Officer, British Consulate-General, Nashashibi Street, East Jerusalem, marked "Vehicle Tender," to reach the Consulate-General not later than midday on March 3, 1986. Tenders received after this time will not be considered. The British Consulate-General reserves the right to refuse any tender.

Day has not been paid on the vehicle, and payment of this will be the responsibility of the purchaser.

The successful bidder will be advised, and full payment will be required, within five days of the letter of acceptance of the tender.

The vehicle may be seen at the British Consulate-General, Nashashibi Street, Mondays to Fridays, between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Wages are key issue in top-level talks next week on direction of economy

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Post Labour Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Next Thursday's meeting of the national Economic Council, comprising the government, the Histadrut and the private sector employers, is shaping up as a crucial stepping-stone to the post-recovery period.

Prime Minister Peres, who chairs the council, is expected to attempt to launch a process of negotiation between the three partners aimed at ensuring economic stability, growth and labour calm until the end of the year.

At the top of the agenda is the question of new wage agreements to replace the current two-year accords, which expire at the end of March. The Treasury and the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations (CBEU), which represents the private sector employers, are strongly urging the immediate opening of negotiations for new national agreements.

The Histadrut, however, is stalling. Employers' demands that negotiations begin immediately have either gone unanswered or have been rejected on the grounds that the present, fluid economic conditions are not propitious to the making of new commitments.

At the centre of the Histadrut's calculations is the tradition that agreements remain in force beyond their expiry date until replaced by new agreements. The Histadrut is not averse to a continuation of the present situation, with its price controls and rebounding wages, for another few months.

The CBEU and the Treasury see things differently, of course. The former is desperate to have price controls lifted as soon as possible, while the latter wants to reach speedy agreement on a new cost of living increment system that would reduce public wage bills.

As far as possible, the public and private sector employers would like to isolate the wage negotiations from the other economic issues of the day, such as the state budget and the growth debate.

The Histadrut, on the other hand, sees the wage talks as inextricably tied to everything else that is going on in the economy. It is waiting to see in which form the budget emerges from the Knesset Finance Committee before committing itself to new agreements.

"If the budget remains in its present form we have nothing to talk about," a senior trade union figure said this week. "There will be no public sector agreement until the budget provides funds for wage increases and resources for fighting unemployment."

Privately, Histadrut officials acknowledge that they don't expect to receive full compensation for the wage erosion of the past eight months. But they must have something to show if the various trade unions are to go along with the national agreement.

The Histadrut will probably accept relatively low wage increases, graduated over the year. But it insists that the funds for those increases be accounted for in the budget before negotiations begin.

Whatever agreement is eventually reached, the Histadrut is bound to encounter problems from the so-called "professional" unions, such as the engineers and the academics, which are demanding a special wage structure commensurate with the academic qualifications of their members. But any attempt to treat the professionals differently would be bound to provide a counter-reaction from the run-of-the-mill public sector unions.

The Histadrut is threatening to withdraw from the fray and allow the unions to negotiate independent agreements if the Treasury is not forthcoming. The implication of the threat is that, if one central agreement is not negotiated, the employers will have to face a mass of wage claims from each group of workers.

Much will depend on the statistics presented by each side. In the past, the employers have submitted statistics purporting to show little or no wage erosion over the preceding period, while Histadrut statistics have shown substantial erosion. This time, the Histadrut is expected to maintain that wages have been eroded by 12-15 per cent since the implementation of the economic recovery programme last July.

Histadrut officials expect the situation to become clearer in the next two weeks. By that time, the council would have met and the trends in the Finance Committee's examination of the budget would have become clear. Until then, however, it is unlikely that the Histadrut will agree to open wage talks.

Jordan-PLO rift only 'temporary separation,' not divorce

By BENNY MORRIS
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Highly placed sources in Jerusalem yesterday said King Hussein's speech on Wednesday marked "a temporary separation" rather than a divorce between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The sources said there might now be a hiatus in the peace-seeking process but that it would eventually be resumed, "with the PLO."

The sources pointed to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's continuing efforts yesterday to induce the PLO to enter the process, and to the fact that King Hussein, while berating the PLO's leadership in his speech, left untouched his commitments to the PLO as an organization.

The sources stressed that Hussein continued to insist that his relations with the Palestinians would be based on his agreement with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat last February.

Hussein will never go alone to peace talks with Israel, the sources said. And the possibility that representatives from the administered territories or the Syrians would join Hussein in talks with Israel without the PLO is "very very small." Hence, Hussein will sooner or later attempt to renew the dialogue with the PLO, perhaps via Egyptian mediation, the sources predicted.

These sources agreed with the prevailing view in the Foreign Ministry, which in large measure sees the Hussein speech as a major effort to pressure Arafat into reconsidering his rejection of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The U.S. has demanded that the PLO explicitly accept these resolutions and renounce terrorism as conditions for its entry into the peace process.

All the sources agreed that, while Hussein may have singled out Arafat as the chief culprit in the failure of the peace process, it was unlikely that the PLO leadership would change. Hence, the renewal of the Hussein-PLO dialogue would have to involve Arafat as the king's major interlocutor.

The renewal of the dialogue would occur, the sources predicted, when the U.S. or the PLO moved, however marginally, from their positions as expressed earlier this month. Meanwhile, said one of the sources, "Hussein has left all his options open, including a renewal of the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement."

Top Lebanese Communist killed in Beirut street

BEIRUT (AP). - An assassin on a motorcycle killed a senior Lebanese Communist leader in Moslem West Beirut yesterday as artillery and tank battles raged in Lebanon's Christian heartland, killing six civilians and wounding 11.

Police identified the victim as Khalil Naouss, 50, a central committee member of Lebanon's Moscow-oriented Communist Party. He was a Sunni Moslem.

His brother, Abdul-Hafiz, who was driving Khalil's car in West Beirut's busy Corniche Mazraa commercial thoroughfare when the attack occurred, was seriously wounded, police said.

No group has claimed responsibility for the assassination, but there has been growing friction between the Communists and the Shi'ite Moslem Amal Militia, one of the strongest in Lebanon.

Amal fighters have rounded up hundreds of Communists in South Lebanon in the last three weeks.

Police said the artillery and tank battles in the central mountains northeast of Beirut were between mainly Christian units of the army loyal to President Amin Gemayel and pro-Syrian leftist and Moslem militias.

CORRECTION

In yesterday's story reporting the end of the workers' sit-in at Israel Shipyards, the duration of the sit-in was reported incorrectly due to an editing error. The sit-in lasted one month.

U.S. expert invited to see Kinneret discovery

New find hints at second Roman boat

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
TIBERIAS.

Wooden remains found yesterday in the mud near the 2,000-year-old boat being excavated on the Kinneret shore raised archeologists' hopes that a second boat may be discovered.

"It might be another boat, or it might be pieces which broke off the first boat," said archeologist Shlomo Wachsmann. "At the moment it's an open question."

Prof. J. Richard Steffy, one of the world's foremost authorities on ancient ships, yesterday described the 8-metre boat as extremely well-preserved. "I'm really surprised by the boat being in such good condition," said Steffy, of Texas A&M University, who arrived from the U.S. on Wednesday night to see the boat.

Steffy said the boat was nothing like other ancient boats he was familiar with. But, "as a freshwater boat, it's bound to look a bit different."

Archeologists say that, although the boat apparently dates to the 1st century BCE, it closely resembles the boats that plied the lake in Jesus' time.

"Boat construction didn't change very quickly in antiquity," says Wachsmann, inspector of underwater archeology for the Antiquities Department. "I think that any future pictorial representation of Jesus around the lake and its fishermen will be based on this boat."

A tarpaulin has been raised over the boat to keep the sun from drying out the waterlogged wood, which must be kept wet until it is chemically treated to prevent its disintegration.

Because of the complex technical problems involved in extricating and preserving the boat, discovered this month by two brothers from Kibbutz Ginnosar, archeologists had initially intended to carry out the excavation as an underwater dig at some undetermined future date after the site had been covered by the lake's rising waters and thereby protected from hunters of antiquities. However, a leak of the find to a newspaper last week has already attracted curiosity seekers. Wachsmann and archeologist Kurt Raveh began the dig on Sunday.

A dispute quickly erupted between Ginnosar, 300 metres from the site, and the village of Migdal, high on a ridge further west, over rights to display the boat, which promises to be a major tourist attraction. Tempers calmed when archeologists pointed out that it might be 10 years before the boat is ready for display.

"The help we're getting from both



Mendel Nunn, a specialist on the Lake Kinneret area, picks his way through the mud at the bow of the 8-metre boat being excavated on the shores of the lake. Volunteers from neighbouring kibbutzim and elsewhere are assisting in the dig. (Reuter telephoto)

the kibbutz and Migdal has been terrific," said Wachsmann. "It's in the spirit of the old yishuv."

If the boat is from the 1st century, it could not have been used in the battle on the lake during the Roman suppression of the Jewish revolt. At the time the Jews took to the water in small boats and the Romans pursued them in rafts and destroyed them. Josephus describes the shore as subsequently being thick with wrecks. The boat being excavated is intact and upright, looking as if it had been tied up perpendicular to the beach when its passengers stepped ashore 2,000 years ago.

Ministers plead to restore free health care for judges

Two ministers Wednesday went to bat to restore the judges' special health care benefits. The benefits were revoked by the Knesset Finance Committee as of April 1, 1986, together with those of senior officials, cabinet ministers and Knesset members.

Justice Minister Moshe Nissim and Health Minister Mordechai Gur asked Finance Committee chairman Abraham Shapira to table a proposal in the committee revoking the earlier decision for judges in both the civil and religious court systems.

Nissim told *The Jerusalem Post* that the proposal had been cleared

with Prime Minister Peres. "We told Shapira that we thought the committee cut hasty and ill-advised because it did not consider the special position of judges."

"All the health funds have political affiliations and that's what judges should avoid. As long ago as 1953, the late Supreme Court president Yitzhak Olshan insisted that he would not join any fund and his colleagues have emulated him."

Police probing alleged fraud of education funds by yeshivot

By BARBARA AMOUVAL
For The Jerusalem Post

A three-year investigation by the national fraud squad led last week to court-issued search warrants against several Tel Aviv yeshivot and religious educational institutions, including the national headquarters of the Bnei Akiva.

Police recently uncovered dozens of incriminating documents which confirm suspicions that the institutions and yeshivot received government subsidies grossly exceeding the amounts legally allotted to them, police sources said.

Arrests are expected in the next few days. A Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court judge has forbidden the publication of suspects' names.

Several heads of Tel Aviv-based yeshivot and religious educational institutions, as well as high-level clerks in the Education Ministry, are suspected of defrauding that ministry

of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The fraud squad is also investigating senior officials in the Interior and Religious Affairs Ministries who are suspected of similar crimes.

Police suspect that yeshiva heads purposely inflated the number of students and class hours in their institutions, thus making them eligible for Education Ministry subsidies sometimes twice as large as they were entitled to.

According to an officer connected with the investigation, yeshiva heads are also suspected of submitting the same fraudulent lists to the Interior and Religious Affairs Ministries.

Several public servants "in authoritative positions" are suspected of accepting bribes from religious institutions in exchange for their cooperation. Police emphasized that most instances of bribery involved only the tacit cooperation of public servants.

UK regrets end to talks; French avoid comment

LONDON (Reuters). - Britain expressed regret yesterday over the collapse of a joint initiative by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization in the search for peace in the Middle East.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government "regretted that an important phase in the Middle East peace process appears to have come to an end."

The government had not yet fully studied King Hussein's "clearly important" speech Wednesday, announcing the failure of PLO-Jordanian talks, the spokesman said, recalling that Britain had consistently supported the king's efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Two key French newspapers yesterday interpreted Hussein's speech as tantamount to a "divorce" between Jordan and PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

The authoritative daily *Le Monde* and the popular pro-socialist *Libération* highlighted the link between the king's obvious frustration with the PLO and Arafat's rejection of the latest U.S. concessions regarding a possible Middle East peace conference.

Both papers noted that Hussein had been careful to leave the door slightly open to Arafat by declaring that the basis for their earlier two accords remained.

The French government preferred to avoid making any official comment, but French officials characterized the king's declaration and its potential fall-out as primarily an "inter-Arab matter."

France is in the midst of a major election campaign and is preoccupied by the Libyan-backed rebel raids in Chad.

French President Francois Mitterrand met this week with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, following the breakdown of intense French diplomatic efforts to get Syrian President Hafez Assad to secure the release of four French hostages in Lebanon.

Paris-based Western specialists on the Middle East cautioned against the French press interpretation of a "complete divorce" between Hussein and Arafat.

Hussein's declaration could be interpreted as a last ditch effort to pressure Arafat into accepting UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and clear the way for the proposed Middle East conference, these analysts said.

Reaction is mixed from East Jerusalem newspapers

Post Middle East Staff
East Jerusalem's Arabic newspapers reacted to Wednesday's speech by King Hussein of Jordan according to their political leanings. Hussein said in the televised speech that he would no longer coordinate peace moves with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"We were shocked, and what a shock. All the hopes we built on a joint position [between Jordan and the PLO] collapsed," said the pro-Jordanian daily *Al-Kuds*.

Echoing Hussein's view that the PLO had made unnecessary demands, it said: "The priority which must precede everything is to liberate the land so it can remain Arab and to ensure that its own people continue to live on it."

A-Shaab, which reflects the views of hardliners in PLO leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, said Hussein's decision "was an attempt by Jordan to impose its will on the PLO."

It added: "By trying to impose its view of how events should be

shaped, Jordan wants to rob the PLO of its role in representing the Palestinian people. Jordan wants full trust placed in the U.S. ... something that is not acceptable to a majority of Palestinians or Arabs."

Al-Fajr played down the differences between the king and the PLO and emphasized their common positions and goals. The paper does not want to see the PLO kept away from the centre of future political initiatives.

Both sides, said the paper, confront the same Israeli expansionism and reject Israel's proposals for a peace settlement. The main difference between the king and the PLO, said *Al-Fajr*, is over the acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The daily *Al-Mithaq*, which backs radical Palestinian groups opposed to the PLO, said Jordan's position was a "powerful slap" to the PLO. But, the paper said, the slap did not come as a surprise "because Arafat's approach ignores the aspirations of the Palestinian people."

King discloses Jordan army now numbers 100,000 men

AMMAN (Reuters). - Jordan's armed forces have been boosted to more than 100,000 men, according to King Hussein.

The king, who made the disclosure in his major policy speech on the Palestinian question Wednesday night, said also that the forces had been modernized, "keeping them abreast of rapid technological developments as far as possible."

He gave no details, but diplomatic sources said the army recently received a fresh supply of ground-to-air missiles from the Soviet Union. The U.S. agreed last year to sell

\$1.9 billion worth of planes and missiles to Jordan, but the deal was dropped in the face of opposition from Congress which linked it to progress in the stalled Middle East peace process.

Jordan's standing armed forces now represent about 4 per cent of its 2.5 million inhabitants, the majority of them Palestinians.

Hussein said Jordan was giving military training to many citizens as reservists through compulsory conscription and the newly-created paramilitary People's Army.

Sanctions suspended in secondary schools

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Disruptions of classes in junior-high and high schools, as well as the threat to close down the country's 12th grade classes on Sunday, have been suspended as a result of a compromise reached yesterday between the Secondary School Teachers' Association and the government at the Jerusalem Labour Court.

The government had asked the court to issue an injunction forbidding strike action by the teachers. But the court helped the parties reach an agreement, whereby the

teachers would stop sanctions in return for intensive negotiations over their wage demands. Negotiations are to begin on Sunday and to continue for a week, at which time the parties will report back to the court.

Though the teachers had considered the government's decision to go to court an attempt to avoid negotiating, they now hope the government will negotiate seriously so that further action will not be necessary. The teachers' main demand concerns their pay, which they say has been eroded 30 per cent more than in other sectors.

SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION (Israel)
A gathering to pay tribute to the late
Dr. MEYER KATZ ז"ל
will be held at the South African Hostel
31 Amishav Street, Tel Aviv
on Sunday, March 2, 1986, at 5.30 p.m.
Former colleagues and friends and in particular
ex-teachers and pupils of the HERZLIA SCHOOL, Cape Town,
are cordially invited.

In memory of our beloved
ESTHER C. ELBIN ז"ל
whose second yahrzeit will be observed on
Sunday, February 23, 1986 (Adar A 14, 5746).
Her Family and Friends

On the first anniversary of the death of
my dear husband
ERNST ELI FELDMANN
there will be a memorial service at the Kfar Samir cemetery
on Tuesday, February 25, 1986, at 3.30 p.m.
We will meet at the gate.
Vera Feldmann

We deeply mourn the passing in Johannesburg of
our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother
BETTY SUNDY (Segall)
Daphne and Solly Josman
Barbara, Harold, Nomi and Children
Merle-Anne and Shimon Katz
Pamela and Mark Immerman and Children
Smith and Sundry Families

UNITED ISRAELI APPEAL-KEREN HAYESOD
honours the memory of
Dr. MORTON MAYER BERMAN ז"ל
A great American Zionist leader and devoted volunteer worker for
Keren Hayesod on the occasion of the Shoshim, the unveiling
ceremony will take place on Tuesday, February 25, at 3 p.m. Family
and friends will gather at the Mt. of Olives plaza, below the
Inter-continental Hotel, at 2.45 p.m.
May his memory be for a blessing

הסדרה של האחים

U.S. blames Arafat for Hussein's decision to end talks with PLO

It's a 'full stop' to the peace process

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Once again, the Reagan administration has been badly disappointed by the Arabs.

The prevailing assessment in Washington now is that the year-long effort to get negotiations off the ground between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation has ground to a halt.

That was the immediate reaction to King Hussein's speech on Wednesday, during which he shelved his attempt to persuade PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to compromise by meeting the long-standing U.S. conditions for recognition of the PLO — namely, that he accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as Israel's right to exist.

U.S. officials were not very surprised by Hussein's abandonment of Arafat. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who has often met with Hussein in recent months, was well aware of the king's mounting frustration in dealing with the PLO leader and his repeated failure to win any breakthrough concessions from Arafat. Again, Arafat is now seen in Washington as shortighted and cowardly in refusing to take advantage of the opportunity to improve the lot of his own people. He is also seen in Washington as simply being too slippery to take the decisive steps necessary to lead to a direct American dialogue with the PLO.

"We certainly gave him every chance," an American official said. "Our hints were quite clear."

Only a week earlier, for example, the State Department had issued a lengthy public statement aimed at encouraging Arafat even at the eleventh hour to come to terms with Hussein. The statement noted that the "Palestinian problem is more than a refugee question... There should be Palestinian participation at every stage of the negotiating process."

A White House spokesman, Ed Djerejian, had told reporters a few days earlier that once the PLO accepted America's conditions, "the very next day the U.S. will be in an immediate bilateral dialogue with the PLO at a very responsible level."

But the Reagan administration — like the Carter administration before it — has again learned that even such a highly-publicized battery of thinly-veiled diplomatic overtures to the PLO are really useless in moving Arafat away from his worn-out positions of the past.

Both President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz never had any inflated expectations that this diplomatic initiative would succeed. That helps to explain why they let Murphy carry the ball. They did not want to be too closely identified with the expected failure.

There is a clear sense in the administration that even if Reagan or Shultz had played a more active personal role, the basic outcome would have been the same. Administration officials reject the opinion of former president Jimmy Carter and several other former Middle East specialists in the government, such as Harold Saunders and William Quandt, that a higher administration profile would have made a significant difference. The president and the secretary of state had good reasons for their scepticism.

For Reagan, there were bitter memories of his September 1982 Arab-Israeli peace initiative, which never got anywhere. He was urged to make the initial pitch during a nationally-televised address. He did so, confident of some tangible success. His name was attached to the package of proposals. He would have a tremendous foreign policy achievement. But nothing much happened and senior White House aides quickly recognized that that was a major political blunder for the president.

Shultz also had his share of frustration and failure in dealing with the Middle East. It was the secretary of state, after all, who personally nailed down the final details of the ill-fated Israeli-Lebanese security agreement of 1983. He had been involved in some personal shuttle diplomacy à la Henry Kissinger. But that framework also died quickly when confronted with a frontal attack from the Syrian regime of President Hafez Assad.

Thus, both Reagan and Shultz understandably became wary of the Middle East.

Murphy, to his credit, made a major diplomatic effort. From the start, he recognized the pitfalls and the dangers. He was hopeful but never overly confident. There was always a gnawing feeling that Arafat would not prove up to the challenge despite all the pressures.

The PLO leader, after all, was still very weak, having seen his forces kicked out of Southern Lebanon and Beirut by Israel and its Christian allies, and then from Northern Lebanon by Syria and the Abu Musa renegade faction of the PLO. Arafat, isolated in Tunisia, was fighting for his political survival. He had his own reasons for seeking to mend ties with Jordan and Egypt. The February 11, 1985 agreement with Hussein was largely aimed at shoring up his standing in the Arab world.

But despite repeated signals from Washington that the PLO would instantly gain American recognition by meeting the minimal American conditions, Arafat still managed to find excuses to avoid such direct action. Hussein recognized on Wednesday that Arafat was not going to do so in the foreseeable future. And now, again, Arafat and his followers are major losers.

There is little likelihood that Hussein's decision to end his dialogue with the PLO will lead to some sort of unilateral Jordanian approach toward Israel — as Prime Minister Peres and others in Israel would, of course, like. According to American officials, Hussein is still too weak to undertake any such unilateral step.

Those Israeli officials who are now waiting for Hussein to find alternative, non-PLO Palestinians for his delegation and then to embark on direct peace talks with Israel are in for another serious disappointment, according to authoritative U.S. officials. "It's not in the cards," one of them said.

The only realistic way that Hussein would be in a position to take that kind of step, U.S. analysts said, would be if he first won the permission of Syria's Assad, with whom he has been improving ties in recent weeks. But Assad would demand that his anti-Arafat, Damascus-based allies in the PLO — Abu Musa, Ahmad Jibril, George Habash, Nayif Hawatme and company — get directly involved in any international conference.

These rejectionist Palestinian elements, however, openly oppose any peace process with Israel whatsoever. They had accused Arafat of selling out to the Zionists. The chances of finding moderate Palestinians among that group — especially when there was such little success among the Arafat mainstream of the PLO — are nil.

Administration officials also believe that the Soviet Union has been consistently negative in recent months. The consensus is that Moscow actively discouraged Arafat from accepting Hussein's pleas for moderation. The Americans have little hope that the Soviet Union, in the near future, will present a more constructive posture.

As a result, the Americans have temporarily concluded that the effort to get the peace process moving has reached a dead end — even if they will not admit this in public.

Israeli officials in Washington are at least taking some comfort in knowing that Israel is not being blamed by the Americans for the collapse. Peres, after all, had gone the extra mile in accepting the notion of an international umbrella for any peace negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. He also was seen as genuinely flexible on other procedural as well as substantive issues.

The Americans are also not really blaming Hussein, who is widely seen as sincere in his quest for peace. But the king is also weak, simply unable to follow in the footsteps of the late Egyptian president Anwar Sadat.

"What peace process?" an American official replied, when asked to assess the state of the peace process after Hussein's speech. That sums up the gloomy atmosphere in the U.S. capital today.

Likud: We're no closer to any settlement

By SARAH HONIG

Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — Most Likud spokesmen were agreed yesterday that King Hussein's Wednesday night speech did not in any way advance the cause of Israeli-Jordanian peace. The consensus, moreover, was that Hussein was not seeking this time to impart any message whatsoever to Israel.

Nevertheless, the Likud politicians pointedly refrained from attacking Labour's reactions or conceptions, such as Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's statement that the speech created an historic opportunity for advancing Middle East peace. The Jerusalem Post was told that the Likud was keeping quiet in a conscious effort not to fan the already blazing coalition flames.

Minister-without-portfolio Moshe Arens told The Post that he regarded the speech as "good news for Israel." It is always good news whenever anyone who has close contacts with the PLO breaks them off. As long as King Hussein was kowtowing to Arafat there was always the danger of terrorist action against Israel from Jordanian territory.

Nevertheless, as Arens saw it,

"the speech does not bring us any closer to a settlement with Jordan. Since Hussein is operating under severe domestic political constraints. The fact that peace with Jordan is no closer does not make us happy, but it is no tragedy either."

Arens explained that "Jordan is any case not about to go to war with Israel. Hussein knows that he can sleep quietly at night as far as Israel is concerned, and wait until conditions allow him to negotiate peace with us."

Deputy Foreign Minister Ronnie Milo, however, told The Post that "rather than increasing the likelihood of peace, Hussein's speech seems to be a step back especially if one compares it to the speech he made to the UN [last September]. This speech is far less optimistic, and Hussein's main concern seems to be to prevent friction with various groups in the Arab world, even at the expense of the peace process."

Liberal MK Sara Doron, who heads the Likud Knesset faction, told The Post that, "if anything, the Hussein speech indicates that he is interested in continuing to receive U.S. support and U.S. weaponry. He strove to drive home the point to

the Arabs in the territories that the solution to their problems must be achieved through him. Yet he does not have the courage to come to the negotiating table with Israel without Arafat. The Jordanian option, therefore, no longer exists. It will not exist as long as Hussein does not seek an independent peace."

Most Likud MKs told The Post, off the record, that, if anything, the Hussein speech pricked Peres's Jordanian option balloon. However, no Likud MK was prepared to be critical of Peres on the record.

Such criticism, The Post was told, would pour fuel on the flames Labour was already fanning to break up the coalition. The feeling in the Likud yesterday was that, "although the disagreement over economic growth was used to create a wholly artificial coalition crisis," it was, nonetheless, the most serious crisis that the coalition had faced.

The row over growth, and especially the part played by Premier Peres in deciding not to hold the weekly cabinet session on Sunday, was seen in the Likud as part of a premeditated scheme to weaken the coalition.

Likud politicians have long been

predicting that the crucial phase for the national unity government would come towards the end of February, March and April see the big party convocations, and Peres is due to go abroad later. The closer one gets to summer, the less likelihood there is of the coalition being disbanded; it is felt. This is because the closer one gets to October's scheduled rotation, the more wary will Labour be of the damage that dissolving the coalition is likely to cause the party.

While Likud politicians were afraid to criticize the Labour reaction to Hussein, Tehiya yesterday said in an official statement that "the Hussein speech exposed Labour's policy as being based on wishful thinking and self-delusion." MK Geula Cohen told The Post that Rabin's "emotional appeal to the Judea and Samaria Arabs is ludicrous, and yet one more example of the illusory policy which will one day cost Israel dearly. The Palestinians will not negotiate without the PLO, and the PLO will not take part without being promised, a priori, the last grains of sand in Judea and Samaria, just as Sadat was promised the Sinai."

Hassidim versus mitnagdim — the newspaper war

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Agudat Yisrael, battered and bruised by the beating it took from the Orthodox Sephardi Shas party in the last election, is in danger of further erosions of its political power, this time from Ashkenazi circles.

Giving tangible form to this threat is Yated Neeman, a newspaper under the aegis of Rabbi Eliezer Schach, mentor of the anti-Hassidic Lithuanian elements in Agudat Yisrael.

Though the paper is already a few months old, it is only recently that an out-and-out conflict has developed between its supporters and those of the official Agudat Yisrael organ, Hamodia. A few stores advertising

in one or the other paper have been burned, but for the most part, the clash has taken the form of an economic war. Insiders report that it was not uncommon, for example, for a customer to walk into a tailor and order three or four suits. The following day, he would be back to say he had just learned that the shop advertised in the rival paper and would cancel.

A meeting called last week by Rabbi Schach, ostensibly to end the conflict, in fact provided a platform for the new political alliance of Lithuanians and some of the Sephardim. Among those present were MK Shlomo Lorincz of Agudat Yisrael and Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz of Shas. Other Shas MKs have not so

far been identified with the new alliance.

At least one leader of the Young Agudat Yisrael organization who was also at the meeting is quoted as saying that his group was backing the new grouping.

Additional support for Yated Neeman, and indirectly for the new grouping are the heads of some Bnei Brak yeshivot who have been instrumental in ensuring that many of the advertisements, announcing betrothals, marriages, births, and deaths, once a mainstay of Hamodia are directed to the new paper. One story making the rounds of ultra-Orthodox circles tells of a student informing the head of his yeshiva that he had just become engaged. "I won't say mazal tov until I read about it in Yated Neeman," the rabbi reportedly answered.

According to analysis by Paul Shaviv, an independent scholar and writ-

ter on the ultra-Orthodox community, the new group reflects frustration at the gradual shift of power in the Agudat from the anti-Hassidic to the Hassidic elements. The movement was founded by non-Hassidic German and Lithuanian Jews and that was its configuration until the arrival of large numbers of Hassidim after World War II, and immediately after the Hungarian uprising of 1956.

Shaviv noted, too, that the very nature of Hassidism, with its concentration of power, put it at an added advantage. When the influential Schach quit as co-chairman of the Agudat Yisrael Council of Sages, many observers believe the move was due to his frustration at the Hassidic element's control of the party.

So what about Menachem Porush, who is also a Lithuanian anti-Hassid

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BAHRAIN. — Iran and Iraq yesterday accused each other of attacking civilian targets on either side of the Persian Gulf war front as fighting on Iraq's southern Faw peninsula apparently bogged down.

Iraqi warplanes again pounded Iranian positions around Faw, captured at the start of Iran's 11-day-old offensive, after being largely grounded earlier this week by bad weather.

An Iranian passenger plane was shot down in Iranian airspace by Iraqi jet fighters yesterday, killing all aboard, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Irna said the Fokker Friendship plane chartered by Iran's domestic Asseman Airlines carried an undetermined number of passengers and crew, including several members of parliament and a representative of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Irna identified the high official as Hojatolislam Fadhollah Mahallagi of the Revolutionary Guard Corps.

It said the plane, on a domestic flight between Teheran and Ahvaz, was attacked about noon local time.

In Bahrain, aviation sources said the plane was used by Iran for military purposes and that it could carry about 40 passengers.

Irna also said 15 civilians were killed and 25 wounded in an Iraqi air raid yesterday on the border town of Rabat in northwest Iran.

Iraq denied the charge, saying the strike was on military camps at Rabat. It countered that Iranian jets had raided civilian areas at Sulmaniyah in northern Iraq, and shelled the town of Abu-Hasib, near the main southern town of Basra.

The battle lines appear to have remained static since Iraq launched a three-pronged counter attack six days ago. Iraqi commanders admit they have made only small advances, with thick mud on the battlefield hampering Iraqi armour. (AP, Reuters)

JOHANNESBURG. — Detectives killed seven men in a shootout with suspected bank robbers yesterday and recovered pistols and two bags containing 28,900 rand (14,450), police said.

Five of the dead were thought to be in the robbery gang and police were investigating whether the other two were bystanders or were involved with the holdup, a statement said.

Police said the detectives had staked out several banks in Germiston, a city adjoining Johannesburg, and spotted a suspicious car outside a branch of Barclay's Bank.

"Seated inside were five black men," said the statement. Four of them went into the bank and emerged shortly afterward carrying two bags. The detectives confronted them and they started shooting at the police, the statement continued.

"All five robbers were shot dead, as well as two other black men," it said. One of the dead men was an escaped prisoner serving a sentence for armed robbery, it added.

Meanwhile, South Africa's leading anti-apartheid churchmen, including Nobel Peace Prize-winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, held urgent talks in Cape Town yesterday with government officials on unrest in black townships.

The delegation said earlier they would meet President P.W. Botha, but instead saw Adriani Vlok, deputy minister of defence and law and order, and some of Botha's aides.

Talks focused on Alexandra, a Johannesburg black township where at least 19 people died in anti-government rioting over the past week. Sixteen of the victims were shot by the security forces.

(Renter, AP)

"All five robbers were shot dead, as well as two other black men," it said. One of the dead was an escaped prisoner serving a sentence for armed robbery, it added.

Meanwhile, South Africa's leading anti-apartheid churchmen, including Nobel Peace Prize-winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, held urgent talks in Cape Town yesterday with government officials on unrest in black townships.

The delegation said earlier they would meet President P.W. Botha, but instead saw Adriani Vlok, deputy minister of defence and law and order, and some of Botha's aides.

Talks focused on Alexandra, a Johannesburg black township where at least 19 people died in anti-government rioting over the past week. Sixteen of the victims were shot by the security forces.

(Renter, AP)

NEW YORK (AP). — Ferocious storms that sent torrents of water through scores of communities in the western U.S., killing at least 17 people, eased yesterday after nine days.

Many of the 12,000 flood refugees began returning to homes choked with mud and sodden debris.

Reservoirs remained full, towns and farmland flooded, and hundreds of mudslides and avalanches — more than 400 in the state of Colorado alone — blocked highways and rail lines, forcing indefinite suspension of most Amtrak passenger service in California.

Thousands of people remained without power, and states of emergency were in effect in 12 counties in California, four in Nevada and four in Utah.

"This was supposed to be an area that didn't have a flood problem, so hardly anyone around here had any flood insurance, including me," said Dan Thomas, who returned Tuesday to find the Gilroy, California, neighbourhood littered with soggy furniture and belongings of the 125 families who had to flee.

Rain with snow in the higher elevation continued to fall early yesterday over much of Northern California and Nevada, and southern Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Colorado.

Since the first in a series of storms hit February 11, 62.3 cm. of rain has been measured in Kentfield, north of San Francisco. The snow depth on Mammoth Mountain in east-central California was 4.4 metres yesterday.

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By MARK FRANKLAND
Observer News Service
LONDON.—The skill and tactics of Soviet troops fighting in Afghanistan have been questioned in an unusual series of articles just published in the Soviet armed forces newspaper, *Red Star*.

A special correspondent who accompanied Soviet troops into action singles out weaknesses in three vital areas: the use of helicopter gunships, artillery support and medical evacuation of the wounded. The series adds up to an indictment of officer-training methods and of military slowness in adapting to the peculiar nature of the Afghan war.

The correspondent, Col. V. Filatov, describes going on an operation in the mountains with a Soviet para-troop unit and coming under rebel

fire. The commander radioed for air support. Two helicopters appeared, but they climbed to such an altitude that they were hardly visible and their strafing had no effect. Filatov writes that he turned to the commander and asked: "Is that what they call air support?"

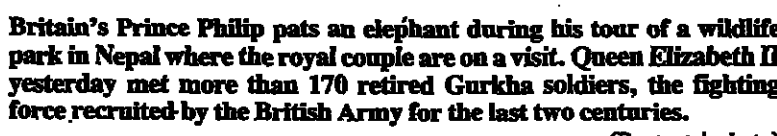
The rebels were eventually silenced by two other gunships which seemed to "crawl along the mountain on their stomach."

The military journalists eventually tracked down one of the first pair of pilots who, as he was flying off, suggested the troops do the job with their own mortars. The pilot was unabashed. He had "acted in accord with the documents that regulate flights." The commander of a helicopter squadron is quoted complaining that lessons learned in Afghanis-

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Palermo's top Mafia boss finally captured

PALERMO (Reuters). — Top Mafia leader Michele Greco, alleged to be the "boss of bosses" of Palermo, was captured early yesterday after more than three years on the run, police said.

Greco, 62, who has been an informers say is the head of the Palermo Mafia "commission" — the most powerful in Sicily — was captured by paramilitary police in a hillside cottage about 50 kilometres from Palermo.

He and his brother Salvatore have been condemned to life imprisonment in their absence for ordering the 1983 car bomb murder of top anti-Mafia magistrate Rocco Chinnici, in which two police guards and the porter of his apartment block were also killed.

The two brothers are among the leading defendants in the current Palermo trial of 468 alleged gangsters.

UK blocks posting of militant to Iranian Embassy

UK blocks posting of militant to Iranian Embassy

LONDON (Reuters). - Iran tried to appoint a former student leader of the 1979-81 U.S. Embassy hostage siege in Teheran as its top diplomat in London, but Britain has blocked the move, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

They said Iran is furious at Britain's refusal to extend a visa to Hossein Malek, a senior official at the Iranian Foreign Ministry chosen to serve as charge d'affaires in London.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the British authorities are still examining a visa application presented at the end of last year on Malek's behalf. But the diplomatic sources said Britain had effectively vetoed Malek and Teheran had now abandoned his appointment.

Ex-dictator Duvalier now has nowhere to go

PARIS (Reuters). — Moves to find a permanent refuge for ousted Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier looked deadlocked yesterday, with Liberia finally saying no and his reluctant host France rejecting his plea for political asylum.

Duvalier, who has not left his French lakeside retreat since fleeing Haiti with his family on a U.S. Air Force plane on February 7, has been told his plea to stay in France has been rejected, his lawyer said.

Convicted Sudanese buys freedom for \$25m.

KHARTOUM (AP).—A government committee investigating allegations of widespread illegalities in Sudan's oil industry has agreed to sell a businessman his freedom for \$25 million.

Salim Eisa, the committee's chairman, was quoted by state-owned newspapers yesterday as saying the money represents the amount that Khidir el-Sherif acquired through illegal oil dealings from 1979 to 1981.

**Jerusalem Post Correspondent
and Agencies**
BONN, A — A high aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl has conceded that Kohl's staff have inadvertently misled an official corruption probe, suggesting that the chancellor had a conversation "blackout" under complex questioning.

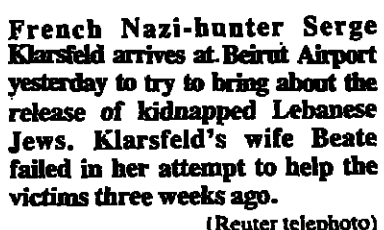
The retreat from strong initial denials that Kohl gave false testimony was led by Heiner Geissler, Kohl's chief strategist for the January 1987 general election.

Geissler, who Wednesday called the allegation "totally unfounded," appeared to admit on Wednesday night the possibility of an error in Kohl's July 1985 testimony when he said on television that the chancellor "possibly had a sort of blackout."

Geissler was debating the affair with radical Greens deputy Otto Schily, whose charge that Kohl lied to a July 1985 parliamentary probe into political tax-evasion has led to unprecedented legal proceedings against Kohl.

Asked by the Rhineland-Palatinate state inquiry in Mainz whether he was aware that the "Citizens Organization 1954" was in fact a money-laundering front for funds donated to his party, Kohl answered: "No."

But in a letter to the panel two months later, he said his testimony could be "misconstrued" if taken out of context.



By YARON KENAN.

Will he play or not? (When a "yelled tov Yerushalayim" (the Hebrew equivalent of a goodie-goodie) suddenly becomes a malignant schemer, naturally that grabs all the attention. The primary focus before tomorrow's round of National League soccer games thus naturally fixes on the plight of betar Jerusalem's Uri Malmilian and his angry spat with coach Dror Kashtan.

Coach Kashtan took a calculated gamble in seeking to bring Malmilian to heel by dropping him for Tuesday's fixture against Maccabi Netanya because, he said, the player had been seriously undermining team morale. But has the gamble misfired? For not only did Betar get a hiding in the midweek game, the star was extremely angry and declared his days with Betar to be over.

HAPPIER DAYS. - U Malmilian gets a kiss from Betar official Avraham Levy after recent victory. (Rabamin Isra

Efforts to patch this latest in a series of smaller crises took on a new dimension when the Israeli Basketball Association would be in Saturday's line-up against Hapoel Beer Sheva in the Negov cup.

But the players simply refused to do without him. They have looked positively awful in their last two games and can ill afford another slip if they are to remain viable elite challengers.

The team has been in a state of emotional loss since they also have a concussive streak which aims at bringing down the big teams when they are in form. March will depend on their inspiration and the ability of the coach, Yehoshua Ben-Hay, if it is in form, as several visiting sides to Beer Sheva have found him in recent weeks, then Betar will find it difficult to breach the Beer Sheva defense.

Beitar have, however, a score to settle. In the corresponding game last year - the final leg of the season - they were the heavy go to. But Beer Sheva saved themselves at the last moment from the dread drop to the second Division with a 2-1 victory. One way or another a hangover.

While Betar agonize over the possibility of a key player, the other Jerusalem side

own dismal string of results might end. Hapoel last week won their second consecutive game, but they need to avoid another defeat, 1-0 to Hapoel Tel Aviv.

While home advantage in the narrow precincts of the YHFA should count for something, the teams will have to be at their best in a clash between the 13th and 14th placed teams.

The most attractive game on the Saturday card looks easily to be the one in Haifa. This despite the fact that neither the champions nor their victors Maccabi Petah Tikva have been fulfilling all the expectations for their highly talented combination.

Haifa must be missing their two stars - Mairon and Mammant - who are still over 100%. But Petah Tikva have a deserved reputation for producing their best against the best. For pure entertainment value Kiryat Eliezer should be the place to be.

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP). — American Jimmy Connors, defying his own age and his opponents' powerful ser, outslugged Frenchman Yannick Noah in a thrill-filled, four-set quarterfinal match at the \$1.8-million Lipton International Tennis Championships.

After losing the first set, the 33-year-old Connors came back to outlast the 25-year-old Noah 5-7, 6-4, 7-6, 6-4 in a 3-hour, 45-minute match.

Noah served 30 aces to one for Connors, but Connors hit him when it counted, at match point.

The other quarterfinals were much less exciting, as top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia waltzed past 10th-seeded Joakim Nyström of Sweden 6-1, 6-1, 6-4, and fifth-seeded Edberg of Sweden pounded unseeded Miloslav Mečíř of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-0, 6-2.

The final semifinal hurdle was the second-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden who off a first-set scare to beat unseeded Guy Forget of France 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.

In today's semifinals, Lendl will play Connors and Nyström goes to play Wilander.

four eligible players, diminutive Hawks guard Spud Webb said it best:

"They just outmanned us at the end."

The Utah Jazz defeated the Hawks 109-105 in an overtime National Basketball Association victory that saw Atlanta assessed three technical fouls with seven seconds left.

The first technical was called when the Hawks called timeout when they had none remaining, then Glenn Rivers was whistled for a technical for arguing. Rivers also was ejected, and with five players already on the bench after fouling out, the Hawks got another technical for having only four eligible players left.

"I've never seen a whole team foul out of a game in all my years of basketball, at any level," Utah guard John Stockton said.

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Chicago 99, New York 118, Seattle 133, Los Angeles Lakers 79, Indiana 81, Minnesota 120.

SCOREBOARD

ICE HOCKEY. — The Edmonton Oilers spotted Toronto an early 7-0 lead, then roared back with seven straight goals, two of them unassisted by Wayne Gretzky and Paul Coffey, to whip the Maple Leafs 9-5 in a National Hockey League game.


Eleven in the NHL, it was the Penguins, 5, Jets 2; Whalers 6, Sabres 4; Capitals 4, Canadiens 4; and North Stars 6, Blackhawks 5.

SOCCER. — World Cup warm-up matches: Netherlands 2, Soviet Union 1; Spain 3, Belgium 1; East Germany 3, Denmark 1.

Fifth Myers memorial rugby match tomorrow

Post Sports Reporter
TEL AVIV. - The Israel Rugby Football Union's fifth annual Gar Myers Memorial Match between the combined kibbutzim and combined universities takes place tomorrow at the Givat Ram Stadium in Jerusalem, kicking off at 2 p.m.

Myers, an outstanding fly-half playing for both his ASA Jerusalem Rugby Club and the national XV, was tragically killed in an accident in 1981 while driving his motor car service.



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'Pay as you wish' in UK restaurant

LONDON (Reuter). - A new style of restaurant which allows its customers to pay whatever they like, instead of presenting them with a bill, has opened in London.

"The restaurant, which is called "Just Around the Corner," claims to be the first of its kind. The owner admits he risks losing a lot of money, but says customers so far are being surprisingly fair-minded in deciding what to pay.

The waiter gives diners yellow cards after the meal listing what they have eaten and asks them to fill in how much they would like to pay.

"People pay more than the value of the meal on average," said Peter Illic, 35, head chef and proprietor of the restaurant, which is located near the well-off London suburb of Hampstead.

Such generosity is the rule. According to general manager Charles Nagy, "a local couple recently played a joke by paying £5 for a five-course meal before offering £50 to the restaurant.

Illic had the idea nine years ago when he worked as a chef in a London restaurant. He remembers telling his future wife, a waitress,

that he would rather give people money to enjoy spending in a restaurant than see the place go empty.

Now he has the security of owning three other restaurants in London where customers pay bills in the usual way.

"The gimmick wouldn't work unless the food was good," said Jeremy Fox, a television producer, at the fully booked restaurant on a recent evening.

Businessman Douglas Graham, another diner, said going there made him much more aware of the value of good food.

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presents
THE NUTCRACKER

Tel Aviv: Habimah — Monday, March 3; Tuesday, March 4 at 5 and 8.30 p.m.
Jerusalem: Jerusalem Theatre — Saturday, March 22 at 7.15 and 9.15 p.m.
Haifa: Haifa Auditorium — Tuesday, March 25; Wednesday, March 26

Ticket available at: Tel Aviv — Main distributor: Le'an, Tel. 03-231 189, 03-230896 and at other ticket agencies.
Jerusalem — Klairn, Tel. 02-234061 and at the Theatre box office. **Haifa** — Gerber, Tel. 04-384777, 04-384222

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TALKING ABOUT AUTONOMY

West Bank voices

THESE ARE five, not very random voices from the West Bank. Two preferred to remain anonymous. There is the journalist who speaks with Fatah's voice, a photograph of Yasser Arafat on his desk. There is the doctor, from the Jordan-Fatah bloc, pressured on one side by the Israeli military administration, on the other by the Jordanians and the PLO, but most pressured by the sounds of the wailing babies in the arms of their mothers crowding an emergency room waiting area. There is the Village Leaguer, a self-made millionaire who learned from the Israelis. His company extends from his village all the way to large construction projects in Tel Aviv and he now has former military government officers working for him. There are the two academics. One, a woman and a Rejectionist, views Zionism as a colonialist project, an extension of American imperialism. She prefers, she says, occupation to autonomy. And finally, there is the iconoclast, also an academic but a man who has found in utilitarianism a kind of new Palestinian ethic, actively calling for Israeli annexation of the territories, so that the Palestinians can finally enjoy full civil rights, and in the process, turn Israel into a "secular democratic state."

THE BUSINESSMAN. Jamil el-Amla: Mr. Arafat, you must decide!

The Palestinian leadership is like a worker I once had. In the days of inflation he came to me for his salary. I gave him, let's say, 100 shekels. He wanted 125, I said, no, this month you didn't deserve it. Maybe next month. He got very angry and stormed out, saying, I won't take any of your money. A month later he came back to me, without money for food, without money for rent. He said, I'll take my money. I gave him the 100 shekels. But by then it was worth only 75, and in the meanwhile I had used it to make me another 25.

I want to say to Mr. Arafat, sir, you have a problem. You sincerely want peace but you aren't strong enough to decide. You spend your time with words, words - 242 and 338 and this formula and that formula. The difference between us is that I see the only way to get anything for our people is through



An IDF soldier and a local resident in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

(Rubinger)

ROBERT ROSENBERG

peace. You believe that inside but don't say so. You must decide.

The situation is good for Israel this way, with the extremists in control. They stroke the extremists and condemn the moderates. The Village Leaguers, for example. Yes, there were mistakes and problems, but instead of allowing it to grow, the government cut it off, saying terrible things about us.

But they are tired of the fighting, of the occupation. And I tell you the leagues still exist, you will see.

Yes, fear is a central motive for us Palestinians. From the Nashashibis to Sartawi, there is fear.

But money and power, too, are important. There is no unity among us except in money. And every Arab

state has the money to push and pull at us.

Meanwhile, it hurts me to say that you Israelis, from whom I learned so much, have still not accepted us as people. You see us as terrorists. But we are people. Like you.

I want to ask Mr. Arafat: Sir, what is your plan? If he has a plan that will take 400 years to beat the Jews, let him say so and then I will know what to tell my sons.

But meanwhile I see no plans, only the stupidities. Tel Zataar and Black September and Lebanon, and still, you, Mr. Arafat, have not drawn the proper conclusions. Look at the Israelis. Moshe Dayan maybe won, maybe lost, the October War and bam, he was out.

Mr. Arafat, you should draw conclusions.

THE REJECTIONIST: I prefer the occupation.

We must start with the assumption that there was a people here before the Zionists, and no matter what the Zionists try to do, these people remain, exist inside and outside the land. So what can they be given? If we say these people are a people who have rights, what can they be given? We can't be given Israel now.

But Israel can offer what Teddy Kollek is offering, and I say that cynically, for I know that no matter how much cultural autonomy may be given us, without political independence all the rest is almost meaningless.

The Labour Party, yes, I know it is different from the Likud, which I think is simply a stupid political

party. But Labour can't yet see us as a people with rights.

Mr. Peres, for example, is first of all trying to convince us that we should live as second class citizens in this region. He does not offer us elections. He offers us autonomy. He does not offer us the right to protest, he offers us electricity.

So, in a way, I prefer the occupation to this other thing called autonomy. Because I prefer to be me, with all the problems it creates for me under occupation, than to be only a shadow of myself.

Don't misunderstand me, I sympathize with the Israelis, too, who live with this impasse and I don't feel that they should vanish so that I may exist.

THE ICONOCLAST, Sari Nusseibeh: To deal with the law, not be dealt by it.

I'll tell you a story. On the way here I was listening to Israel's Arabic radio station and it was a call-in programme. One man, from Dahariya, I believe, called in to say he wanted to go to Egypt and asked whether the Israelis can provide him with a passport, even a temporary one.

This, to me, is one more of the proofs of my basic thesis, which says that eventually the utilitarian approach will overcome the ideological approach, and slowly but surely, the Palestinians will seek rights to deal with the law, and not be dealt by it.

Let me explain. I am in favour of annexation, with full political and civil rights for the Palestinians as part of this country. We will vote for the Knesset. And eventually, by virtue of our demographics, we will turn this country into a democratic secular state.

It isn't the intellectuals with their theories of ideology and struggle who will determine the direction. It will be the real people, the workers, the peasants, the businessmen, the people who respond to the daily details of life with a search for a way to find an Israeli solution, who will set the tone.

And as the years pass without any solution, they will see that it is in their self-interest to seek full civil rights as citizens, and then, with a Knesset vote, the Palestinians could

pass, in addition to a Jewish law of return, a Palestinian law of return. Eventually, it will be a Palestinian state.

Of course, there is the two-state solution, which is the dominant ideological plan in the Palestinian movement today.

Yes, I know it was rejected - though not totally - in 1947.

But then the circumstances were different. Now it is the only real solution. My suggestion, of course, ultimately leads to the same solution that the rejectionists want, though they think it will come only with what they call a strategic balance between the Arab world and Israel.

So, if Mr. Peres wants to leave the towns, pull out the army, replace officers with Arab mayors, I'm not opposed, not at all. If he wants to get out, let him.

THE JOURNALIST: We are not waiting for Godot.

So you ask me what I think of autonomy, of unilateral autonomy. Nobody will cooperate with it. Nobody.

Mr. Peres wants somebody to talk for the West Bank. But I promise you nobody will talk for the West Bank. The West Bank and Gaza are only one third of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian people will only accept a package deal. The Israelis have a dream that they can create an alternative leadership. But the PLO must remain our spokesman.

The Israelis haven't reached the point where they accept the Palestinians as a people.

Sometimes I think the Israelis and the Americans are like someone who leaves the lights on when he goes to sleep, to make the burglar think that he is working. They pretend to be searching for a way to peace. But not until there is detente between the Soviet Union and the United States will the circumstances be created for moving forward.

Missed opportunities? What missed opportunities? Camp David? If only the Palestinians had been consulted. But Sadat and Begin and Carter decided for us. Now we will be patient.

The PLO has helped the peace camp in Israel far more than the Israeli government has helped the Palestinian peace camp.

Where, you ask, is the Palestinian peace camp? The PLO, of course.

Yes, I come to the conclusion that peace is very, very far away because of the Israeli government and the American government. I take no blame. You Israelis have the freedom to take some of the blame. Until I live in my own state, I have no such freedom.

THE PHYSICIAN, Dr. Isa Salati: It can be done.

Autonomy is something between occupation and a state - self-rule in almost everything in daily life, except foreign affairs and defence. And no matter what slogans you may be hearing, I can tell you that autonomy, full autonomy, would be accepted and it can be done unilaterally.

For imagine one day I pick up the phone to call the civil administration and the line is dead. They are gone. We'd have to organize, we'd have to manage. I won't be able to sit at home and say no, I won't cooperate. I won't be able to say, no I won't treat my patients, for the sake of civil disobedience.

But the way they are offering it is not worth the political risk.

You see, one pays a price if the commodity is worth it. But they are asking me to buy something without knowing what it is worth. Autonomy must be full from the beginning and it must lead to something resembling a state.

Yes, in that sense, Camp David was a missed opportunity. I have come to see that, just as I see that the mayors' decision to resign, rather than work with the civil administration, was also a mistake.

The Palestinians have long underestimated the strength of Israeli democracy, failed to perceive the differences between Likud and Labour, for example. And we Palestinians have no experience of such democracy for ourselves.

But the Israelis have overestimated fear as the overriding motivation in our support for the PLO.

Certainly I am not supporting violence. But once it had its place, putting us on the map, so to speak. More importantly, now the PLO with all its problems is the only thing the Palestinians can look to for leadership. The Arab states have only used the Palestinians.

IF THERE had been a prospect of increasing the scope of self-rule in the administered territories, the recent publicity has killed it, says Aluf (Res.) Raphael Vardi. There is no way the Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and Gaza will cooperate with Israel, unless they have the approval of Jordan and the PLO.

Vardi, who was OC Judea and Samaria from 1967 to 1974, and coordinator of operations in the administered territories from 1974 to 1976, personifies the pragmatic approach of the late Moshe Dayan. He does not take the latest declarations of Prime Minister Shimon Peres too seriously.

"If you really want to increase the extent of self-rule in the territories, the only way to do it is gradually, and with a minimum of publicity," he maintains. He notes that it took a year of contacts with Zafer Al-Masri to persuade him to become mayor of Nablus, and then Al-Masri had to go to Amman to get Jordanian and PLO approval. No one on the West Bank is going to "take the risk" of acting on his own.

Vardi doubts that there is a "quiet agreement" with King Hussein to introduce unilateral self-rule in the territories. He never agreed to it in the past, and he is not likely to agree to it now. "Why should he agree to an arrangement between us and the West Bankers that leaves Jordan out in the cold?" asks Vardi. "The status quo is preferable from his point of view."

IN THE years 1968-69, some West Bank personalities had been prepared to discuss arrangements for increased self-rule, recalls Vardi, but even then they had been susceptible to Jordanian pressure. In 1975, there was a "quiet decision" to increase the authority of local officials in the West Bank.

The idea was to start with junior officials and slowly work up to the more senior ones, eventually reaching the level of officials responsible for health, education, employment and so on for the entire West Bank. These men would have been running the equivalent of government departments, Vardi explains.

However, as soon as news of the plan leaked out, those who were cooperating immediately stopped doing so. The only exception was the appointment of a head of admissions to West Bank hospitals, to which the Jordanians, after initial opposition, gave their consent.

The Jordanians, explains Vardi, accepted the situation as it evolved in the first months after the Six Day War of 1967, but never agreed to anything beyond that. This became the status quo: the most senior officials were and still are district offi-

Softly-softly



Aluf (Res.) Raphael Vardi

DANIEL GAVRON

cials. The local inhabitants do run their own lives to a large extent, he notes. Education and health are in Arab hands, although the Israeli authorities allocate the budget.

The idea of unilateral autonomy was proposed by Moshe Dayan in 1979, when he feared a deadlock in negotiations with Egypt. His first proposal was radical: Israel would announce that it was pulling out the IDF and dismantling the Israeli-run administration on a certain date, and that it was up to the local population to take over.

After consultations with a number of advisers, including Vardi, Dayan toned down his suggestion. The IDF would remain in security positions but be withdrawn from the towns, and the civilian aspects of Israeli administration would be dismantled. The government of the time rejected the idea.

IF THERE were an agreement with Jordan - or Jordan and Egypt - over the future of the territories, that would be a different situation, says Vardi. Theoretically, you could negotiate an accord on joint rule, on

territorial compromise, or on full autonomy. If this were achieved, the local population "would have no choice" but to agree.

Vardi believes that Israel lost an opportunity of negotiating an autonomy agreement with Egypt on the basis of the Camp David accords. When the Jordanians and the Palestinians rejected Camp David, Sadat resolved to go it alone. Vardi is convinced that an agreement could have been hammered out between 1979 and 1982, and he blames Israel for the fact that it wasn't.

"We didn't offer enough. They wanted a legislative assembly and full autonomy; we were not prepared to give much more than they had already," he thinks that former prime minister Menachem Begin was afraid the assembly would limit Israel's freedom of action in the territories and even declare a Palestinian state.

Vardi dismisses these dangers. He is confident that Israel could have guaranteed its land and water rights in the negotiations, and written into the agreement a clause preventing the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

"In any case," he points out, "the IDF would still have been there, and able to prevent anything undesirable from happening."

An autonomy agreement with Egypt would have secured the cooperation of the local inhabitants, he believes. Israel could have had all the land it needed for "settlements which enhance our security."

Egypt will no longer go it alone; but Vardi insists that the Camp David option is still open. "Neither Egypt nor the Likud has repudiated Camp David," he notes. "At a certain point the Jordanians may find it convenient to use the accords as a starting point."

IN THE absence of a political agreement, Israel should move gradually to increase the scope of self-rule, repeats Vardi. "You know," he muses, "the present situation is not ideal, but it is not unbearable."

It is quite convenient for everyone, he points out, even for the local inhabitants themselves. True, they are under foreign rule, which they don't like, but they are freer than the citizens of other Arab countries. Their standard of living has risen; there is relatively full employment.

Even the Jewish settlements, which injure their national pride, bring benefits in the form of an improved infrastructure: better roads, water and electricity.

Vardi is all for Jewish settlement "according to government decision." He is against partisan settlement projects and regrets that the government was often "dragged after the fanatics." He is particularly scathing about the settlers in the heart of Hebron.

"Hebron is under our rule whether the settlers are there or not," he points out. "Who needs them there? They don't increase our security; they merely create more positions that need defending. They also cause tension and misunderstanding. They are a nuisance!"

But he rejects the idea of a settlement freeze. "Where it helps our security, we should settle," he insists. "The local inhabitants don't like it, but they don't like the army being there either. That does not mean we should withdraw the IDF."

Vardi treats a question about the moral effect of the occupation on IDF troops with great seriousness.

"It is a problem," he admits, "but we can't withdraw the IDF from the territories to save the souls of our soldiers." As far as possible, security should be in the hands of the police and Border Police. Raw recruits should not be sent to the territories. "We have to explain to the soldiers that fighting terrorism does not mean mistreating the people," he says. "It depends on the officers. I think we have shown that our sol-

diers can do their job and also behave in a humane fashion."

Vardi refuses to take the proposal to extend Israeli law to the territories seriously. "If the majority wants it, it can be implemented; but it will not increase the Jewish population there by one Jew. We'll still have to live with one and a half million Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza."

IN GENERAL, Vardi is sanguine about the continuation of the status quo. The best solution would be a political agreement with Jordan, he admits, but failing that the present

situation can continue. He recalls that Moshe Dayan predicted an "explosion" in the West Bank; but it never came. The situation is relatively quiet, and there has never been anything approaching a civil rebellion.

"Few would have predicted 19 years ago that we would be in the same situation today," says the pragmatic former coordinator. "Who knows where we'll be 19 years from now?"

Actually, he points out, there has been a regression: until 1979-80, there were Arab mayors running the

West Bank towns; today there are several Jewish mayors. Let's begin with local government, he suggests. Restore Arab-run municipalities, and then slowly, patiently, and above all quietly, start extending and increasing the authority of the local officials.

The people must be allowed to live their own lives with as little interference as possible, he insists. Israel must do nothing to provoke them, nothing to "force them onto the barricades." If the authorities act with wisdom and moderation, co-existence can be maintained.

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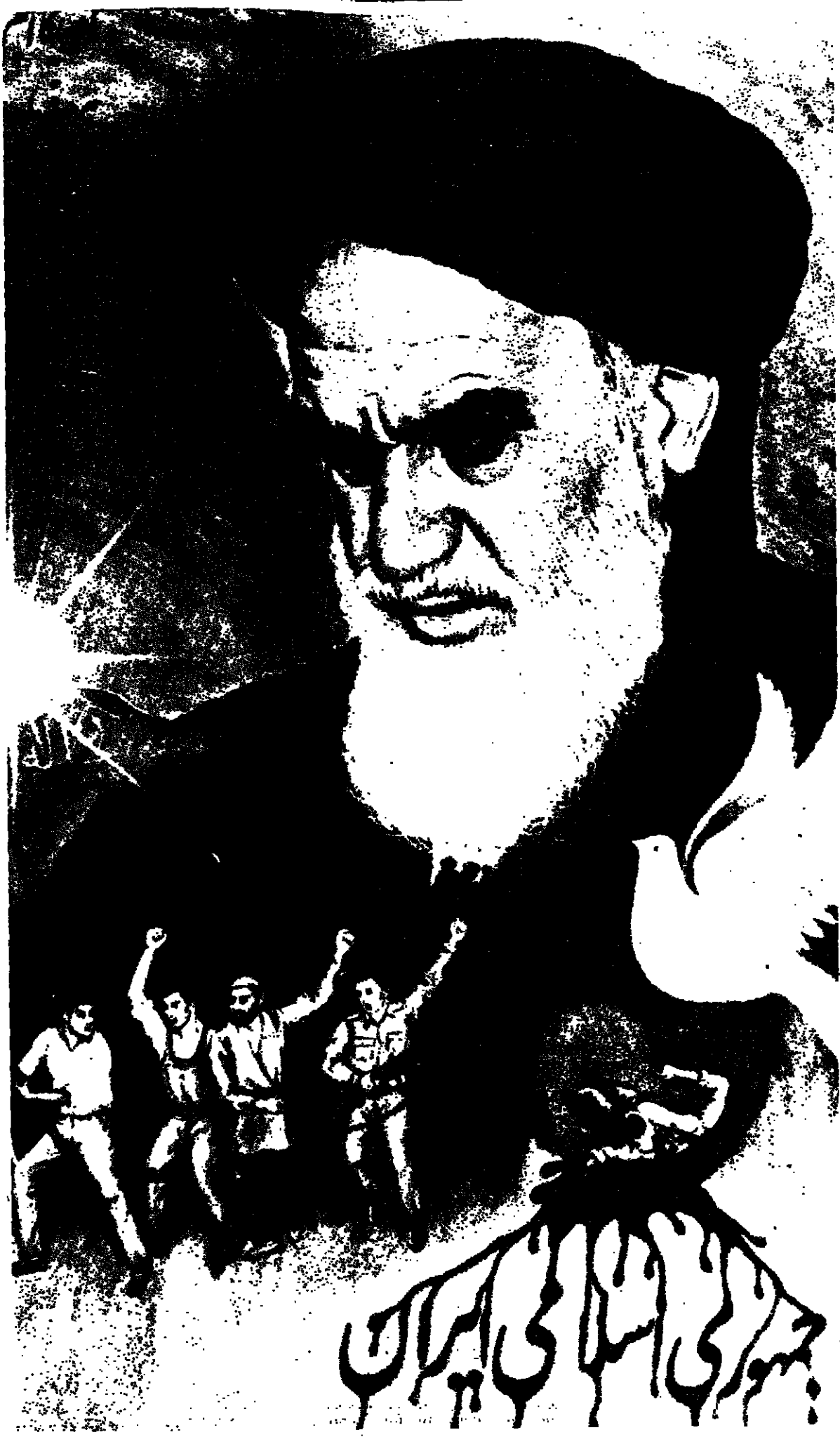
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Bloody miscalculations

One hundred thousand people have died in the Gulf War, a conflict which an Israeli expert says results from mistakes by both Iran's Khomeini and Iraq's Saddam Hussein. Mark Segal reports.



THE WINNING side in the Iran-Iraq war seems to be the arms traders. The two countries are reportedly spending \$1 billion a month on the six-year-old war, suddenly making headlines again because of Iranian advances.

But no radical change can be expected in the balance of forces in the Gulf war, in the foreseeable future, says Dr. Martin Kramer, a senior researcher at the Dayan Centre for Middle East and African Studies at Tel Aviv University at the tender age of 31.

Kramer, who has a Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from Princeton, traces the origins of the hostilities to medieval times, but sums up recent developments rather neatly. Both Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini miscalculated, he says. Meanwhile 100,000 people have lost their lives.

With the ascent to power of the ayatollah in Teheran and the official adoption of the slogan of exporting revolution, tremors of fear began to be felt in neighbouring capitals. Saddam Hussein, who consolidated his regime by savage repression, earning himself the nickname of "the butcher of Baghdad," launched his offensive against Iran partly in self-defence against that threat. Hussein misjudged his resources by pitting 14 million Iraqis against 39 million Iranians.

Kramer stressed the grudges borne by Khomeini against the brutal Iraqi Ba'athist regime. The ayatollah spent 14 years in exile in the Iraqi Shi'ite holy city of Najaf. The Dayan Centre scholar noted that 55 per cent of the Iraqi population is Shi'ite, the most backward group in the country.

Little is known of Saddam Hussein's life. Like Syrian President Hafez Assad, he comes of humble origins, imposed a stable regime by purging his rivals, real and potential, and by rising through the military branch of the Ba'ath Party. However, while Assad has known military (air force) credentials, those of the Iraqi ruler are unknown.

While Assad has based his regime on the loyalty of his fellow Alawites, Hussein built his power base on his clansmen from the area of Tikrit in central Iraq, pulling them up the socio-economic ladder via the army and the party. Just as Assad has recently begun to cultivate historical associations with Saladin and the crushing of the Crusaders, so Hussein's regime has revived atavistic memories of the Fertile Crescent, especially in the pre-Islamic Babylonian imperial days. Lately Hussein has created a strange ideological mix, with both Pan-Arabism and religious Islamic elements, to whip up popular support for his secularist Ba'athist regime.

HOW HAVE the Iraqi Shi'ites reacted to the bid to export the Khomeini revolution?

Contrary to Iran's expectations, says Kramer, there has been no Shi'ite uprising in the Iraqi Army. Along with his harsh repressive measures, Saddam Hussein has introduced some improvements, in a sort of carrot-and-stick technique. Iran's hopes in part were based on the Shi'ite prevalence in the region adjacent to the battle zone. The Shi'ites there live in a feudal structure and have been called "the marsh Arabs." Even the major city of Basra, now the target of Iranian troops, has a sizeable Shi'ite population. However, Dr. Kramer mentions reports of this segment of the Iraqi people being too browbeaten to act against the Ba'athists. Many Shi'ites have been known to have fought alongside their fellow Iraqi Sunnis against the Iranian troops.

Thus both sides miscalculated: Saddam Hussein expected a walkover enabling him to occupy part of Iran, and to extract concessions from Khomeini, particularly a commitment of non-intervention in Iraq. A final target was the fall of the Khomeini regime. His hopes were based on the assumption that the Iranian Army was, as the result of revolutionary turmoil, incapable of resistance.

Khomeini correctly depended on manipulating the masses with religious fervour to mount a counter-offensive, but mistakenly relied on Iraqi Shi'ites as a fifth column to smooth Iran's way to victory. Here Dr. Kramer quotes the eminent

scholar, Prof. Bernard Lewis as wittily describing the war as "a resistable force meets a movable object."

Hussein also miscalculated by not anticipating the ascendancy of Khomeini's hard-line Islamic Republican Party in Teheran over "moderates" like ex-President Bani-Sadr (now in exile in France). Iraq reportedly hoped to do business with Bani-Sadr's people in order to block the export of the revolution. However, the American hostage crisis and the Iraqi invasion, Kramer says, strengthened the radicals, with moderates purged and fleeing into exile. Thus unwittingly, Hussein's war brought about the consolidation of the regime he so detested, with the Khomeini terror intensifying, and the hard-liners activating the masses through religion.

This led to the dominance in Teheran of those who refuse to ever reach a negotiated accommodation with Saddam Hussein, resolving to continue the war until his downfall and replacement by an Islamic Republic.

"NOT since Nasserist Egypt," says Kramer, "has there been a Middle Eastern state that considers it has such a right to intervene in the affairs of other Islamic countries." He adds knowingly: "It's not just an invention of the media but an official formulation of ideology to talk in terms of exporting revolution. They do not speak of using force but of employing persuasive methods, the sort of offers you can't afford to refuse."

In talking about Shi'ite exploitation of what might be termed the suicide syndrome, Kramer came to Lebanon's most charismatic Shi'ite cleric, Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, patron of the radical Hizballah (Party of God). He was born in Najaf, the Iraqi Shi'ite holy city where Khomeini was in exile, in 1935, but his late father came from South Lebanon. Fadlallah returned to Lebanon in 1966, settling in Beirut. Since the Iranian revolution, Fadlallah acquired a political following, especially among Shi'ite students at the Arab University of Beirut. He often called for the overthrow of the Iraqi regime, claiming its agents sought to assassinate him.

After 1983, Iranian influence grew in Lebanon, mainly through the Hizballah alliance led by Fadlallah. In justifying Shi'ite terror in Lebanon, Fadlallah says: "We are the oppressed of the earth, we may be unable to employ aircraft carriers like America, but having been driven to desperation, we have to employ the resources at our disposal."

It is known, Dr. Kramer relates, that the Iranian Embassy in Damascus finances and arms Hizballah terror in Lebanon, as an integral part of its export-of-the-revolution policy. In his view, any significant advance by Iran against Iraq in the war could have ramifications among the Lebanese Shi'ites, giving Hizballah the edge over Amal, with repercussions on the southern Lebanese border region, especially as regards terror tactics against Israel.

The Khomeini regime sees in Israel "an illegal entity, a usurpation of Islamic land." As the Dayan Centre scholar points out, the Shi'ites speak in terms of forcibly converting Lebanon into an Islamic Republic and of "liberating Palestine and Jerusalem for the rule of Islam."

TALKING of the Syrian connection, Kramer refers to the paradox of its de facto alliance with Iran, despite Damascus having the same kind of secular nationalist regime as Baghdad. With all Assad's enmity for Saddam Hussein, a Khomeini triumph would bring diluted joy to Damascus. Assad would not like the Islamic fundamentalists of Teheran breathing down his neck, and there is already disagreement between Iran and Syria over Lebanon, where Assad most certainly would not tolerate the fulfilment of its fundamentalist aims. Should Iran make gains in Iraq, it would spark new troubles for Syria in Lebanon, says Kramer. He adds that if during the war's stalemate, Syria helped Iran, this would change once Khomeini was seen again to be the ascendancy.

Jordan, he notes, has been in alliance with Iraq for some time, with material reaching Baghdad from Aqaba, and Jordan TV screen-



Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and, below, Iranian PoWs. (Keystone, INA)



ing scenes of King Hussein bidding farewell to Jordanian volunteers going to fight on Iraq's side. Obviously an Iranian victory would have serious implications for the Hashemite kingdom, and even more so for the Saudi royal family.

Since 1979 the Saudis have been keeping a wary eye on their Shi'ite minority in their oil-producing eastern coastal province. Iranians are the largest group of Haj pilgrims to Mecca and Medina, and in 1981 and 1982 they mounted huge pro-Khomeini demonstrations in the Great Mosque and elsewhere. The Saudis have sought a *modus vivendi* with Khomeini to stop the spread of subversion and even perhaps halt the war; they have also supported Iraq's war effort to the tune of \$30 billion. It was mooted that the Saudi Arabians may even pick up the war reparations tab, one of Iran's terms for ending the war.

THE SAUDIS feel frustrated, for all their mediation efforts have been to no avail, and Iran's latest advance must have come as something of a shock. But nothing, Kramer points out, compared to the consternation spreading through the Gulf states from Kuwait, which finds itself right on the front-line. For some time the Kuwaitis have been the target of Khomeini-backed subversion, with the *emir* last year subject to an assassination attempt. They have

been expelling Shi'ites for some time, even Kuwaiti nationals. Now they have the war on their doorstep, and they look to the Saudis and the Gulf Cooperation Council for protection.

The stalemate in the war has been convenient for the superpowers, and an Iranian success would pose not only a threat to American interests, but also to the Saudis and the peace process. The Soviets have much to be wary of, says Kramer, mentioning their four million Shi'ite subjects in Soviet Azerbaijan adjoining Iran and the 55 million Moslems inhabiting their Asian republics.

Both the U.S. and the USSR are devils to be avoided in Khomeini's view, says Kramer. He does not buy Henry Kissinger's talk of Iran becoming "the China of the 1990s" — that the present Iranian phase could be compared to Mao's cultural revolution, and after Khomeini, there may be a shift to the West, with Iran focussing more on the threat posed by its long border with the Soviet Union, not forgetting the Soviet troops occupying neighbouring Afghanistan.

Kissinger may have underestimated the religious fervour in Iran, and the unifying force of the war against Iraq, says Kramer. Iran may continue to avoid "the two devils," he says, and remain neutral and a troublemaker well towards the end of the 20th century.

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DRIVE CAREFULLY

THE WHOLE country has been watching how our most publicized couple Anatoly and Avital Shcharansky have been coping with the media razzmatazz since the moment he came through the Iron Curtain. It'll be nothing to what Mayor Ed Koch has in store for them on their upcoming visit to New York. No wonder they've taken refuge in the north from the too, too loving embrace of our big Jewish family. Friends of the new oleh say there's no chance that he will allow himself to be spiritually bullied into anything, although he has said he will do the maximum to make his wife happy by observing kashrut, not travelling on Shabbat, and even attending services at the Kiryat Moshe neighborhood synagogue. Another indication of his not being sucked into that environment is his announced resolve to study Arabic.

Unlike his wife, with her political involvement with Gush Etzionim and her harping on the Greater Israel theme, Anatoly has made clear his intention of steering clear of politics. I gather he has refrained from replying to Herut's invitation to attend the opening session of its national convention in Jerusalem on March 9. Yossi Achmeir, media aide to Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, has denied the *Haaretz* story quoting his boss as saying "Herut is Shcharansky's natural home, and it's only a matter of time until he joins us."

The Shcharanskys were pursued by the paparazzi into Beit Hanassi, where they were warmly welcomed by President Chaim Herzog and his wife Aura. In 1977, Herzog was among the first to extend Avital an encouraging hand while ambassador at the UN. He used his connections with the Soviet in Anatoly's cause, especially one of the top UN Russian officials, Viktor Lossiovsky, who became his go-between with the Kremlin. When Shcharansky was first arrested, the official line was that he would be sentenced to death for treason. However, Lossiovsky assured Herzog that he would only get a stiff jail term, and half-way through it his fate would be reconsidered. *Newsweek* magazine later fingered Lossiovsky as the head of



Chaim Herzog



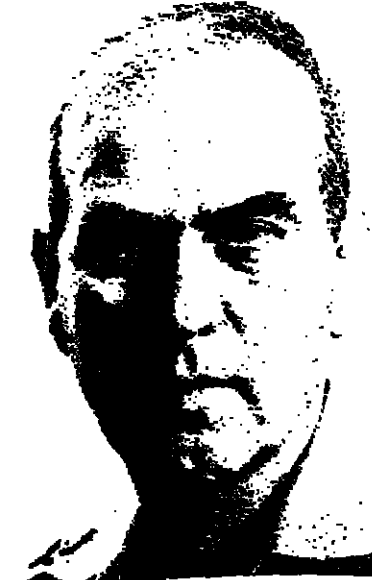
Yitzhak Moda'i



Bruno Kreisky



Yael Dayan



Aluf Matan Vilnay

man Arye Dutzin. His wife, Raya Savidor has incidentally just become chairman of World Wizo's public relations department. While Jesus managed to walk on the Sea of Galilee (Kinneret), our tourism industry whiz-kids thought they'd found a gimmick by attaching his crowd-drawing name to the vessel newly unearthed on the Tamar beach by our top maritime archaeologist Sheli Waxman. As he sought to pin down the origins of his discovery, a fight for possession began between Kibbutz Ginosar and Haim Barless, chairman of the local council of Migdal, the legendary birthplace of Mary Magdalene.

Among the VIP visitors to the site were amateur archaeologists U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering and his wife Alice. He quipped: "Diplomacy is the art of concealing the revealed. Archaeology is the art of revealing the concealed."

Apart from his publishing business, Lord Weidenfeld devotes much time to Israeli causes. On his current U.S. trip, he has been fund-raising for the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in San Francisco, where Mayor Diane Feinstein awarded him the freedom of the city and the local Jewish community presented him with a 1500 BCE Canaanite inkwell. It joins the King Ahab period bronze dagger he got from Peres during the PM's London stay.

U.S. Jewish composer Benjamin Lees is flying here for the March 9 special IFO concert under conductor Zubin Mehta to hear the Israel premiere of his Symphony No. 4 *Memorial Candles*, based on the poetry of Nelly Sachs, who shared the Nobel Literature Prize with S.Y. Agnon in 1966. The work with solo parts for voice and cello was commissioned by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra to commemorate the Holocaust.

The initiative for mounting the concert came from Felgi Zimmerman of Montreal and Kfar Shmaryahu who in addition to hearing Keren Hayesod's international women's division works for several other causes. The concert will benefit two of them: tickets can be obtained from Beth Hatefutot's Miriam Ben-Haim and Tel Hashomer hospital's Era Shara.

Running from the razzmatazz

KGB operations in North America.

Even after Herzog returned home they kept in touch, and when he was elected president, Lossiovsky sent him a message of congratulations on the official newspaper of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, where he headed the department for international organizations. He died last year.

TO ALL THOSE foreign newsmen and diplomats who've been wondering about the rude exchanges at Sunday's cabinet meeting, I endeavour to explain that such expressions of bores are standard diet for anyone of us raised in an overheated Jewish family environment. No wonder a delegate to the international congress on psychiatry, law and ethics in Tel Aviv wondered whether they could help with some group therapy for our politicians. When Health Minister Mordechai (Motta) Gur opened the confab, he referred to the cabinet meeting as an illustration of the heightened stress to which Israeli society is subject.

Likud Knesset faction head Sara Doron and fellow MKs toasted Fi-

nance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i's success in beating inflation, with Herutnik Michael Eitan breaking into verse. Roughly translated, it ran: "The index is down, all hail to Yitzhak Moda'i. No anxiety for the economy. Thanks to his cuts, no ifs and no buts. No thanks to Peres and Shabshal."

The demonstrative absence of Herutnik Deputy Premier David Levy and Liberal Science Minister Gideon Palti came as a reminder of how all Likud ministers except for Moda'i voted against the economic programme they now claim credit for.

Moda'i had a good time quoting from Yael Dayan's attack in *Davar* on Premier Shimon Peres about the proximity of the rotation deadline informing his current stand on economic growth. Some Labourites wish she would stick to writing about the extra-marital peccadillo of her late father.

VISITORS at the Prime Minister's Office were taken aback to see Herutnik hotelier Haim Shiff calling

PUBLIC FACES Mark Segal

on Peres. It seems he sought more government aid to bail him out. The PM received him, courteously, and advised him to apply to Moda'i.

Meanwhile, the aftermath of Herut's internal elections is still rocking the party. Coalition executive chairman Haim Kaufman has turned out a bad loser after Gideon Gadot's group dislodged his 17-year-old grip on the Petah Tikva branch.

Dan Meridor came out on top in Jerusalem, ahead of Dr. Binyamin Ze'ev Begin and his father, Menachem. But the victory has gone to Reuven (Rubi) Rivlin, former Jerusalem Betar football club chairman, who whipped former Likud mayoral candidate Yehoshua Matza, hitherto branch boss. They're saying that Rivlin may even be preferred over Elad Olmert as the party's next mayoral candidate.

In Bat Yam, amiable Herut party

spokesman Yossi Brun demonstrated his clout at grass-roots level, while in Herzliya, Mayor Eli Landau consolidated his local power base.

Ever since IDF manpower head, Aluf Matan Vilnay (son of our eminent geographer, Prof. Ze'ev Vilnay) cracked down on anti-Zionist missionary soul-pitching in the army, he's been getting hate letters. He also told *Bamahane* the army monthly, that "if the many thousands of yeshiva boys who were not called up last year had been drafted, the IDF could have been augmented by a number of fighting units."

THE ATTENTION paid to Peres's call for economic growth at the Tel Aviv Dan Hotel luncheon of the Society of Israel Friends of the Weizmann Institute tended to overlook his cry for re-aligning national priorities to keep up with the second technological revolution. After society chairman Arnon Gafny praised Peres for his civilized style of political leadership, the PM said "I don't usually agree with ex-Austrian chancellor Bruno Kreisky. One exception

was when he said, 'Never contradict anyone who praises you!'" Among the guests one could see many of the coming figures in the private sector, such as Yair Hamburger (Harel Shimschon Insurance), Leon Recanat (Discount Bank) Yitzhak Kolberg (Yeda high tech), and Dan Gillerman (Chambers of Commerce president).

It's good to hear of the marked success in the Netherlands of our new ambassador, Ze'ev Sufot and his wife Mary, who have more than repaired the damage done by the previous political appointee. As one of our most experienced diplomats, his expertise came in handy during Peres's recent visit to The Hague and his historic encounter with Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez.

EX-KNESSET speaker Menachem Savidor has finally been rewarded for staying loyal to the Likud Liberals by being picked as chairman of the Israel executive of the World Jewish Congress, to replace S.Z. Abramov who has joined the new centre party of Jewish Agency chair-

THAT RARE home production, *Near Ones and Dear Ones*, made a triumphant return to our screens, with an episode devoted to the inspiring vision that provides the reason for the optimism of the vanguard of the Jewish people, those who have made aliya or were born in Israel, even in the midst of their darkest hours - the dream of discovering a rich American uncle prepared to shower his undeserving Israeli relatives with greenbacks.

I have a clear recollection of an episode in the previous series of *Near Ones and Dear Ones* in which the family were trying to ingratiate themselves with a wealthy American visitor, but it is churlish to recall such things: a certain repetition of ideas is inevitable in a long-running series. Aldous Huxley warned that the greatest danger in creative work is not plagiarism of others, but of oneself. Even I have been known to repeat myself. So let us not carp and complain: it is wonderful to have the family back with us.

There was one terrific scene in which the family dress up to receive the uncle in the clothes that he has sent them from the U.S. Liora was very enticing in evening dress, 1948 style, and Yehoram was so sexy in striped pyjamas that he looked exactly like the actor playing the lover in a dramatic film now being shown in our cinemas. The old clothes that the uncle sent them remind me of a woman friend who was once approached to provide old garments for a jumble sale in aid of charity. Drawing herself up to her full height with considerable dignity, she said, "Charity begins at home. I wear my jumble."

Flattering a millionaire relation from America is beset with pitfalls. Ogden Nash once wrote a poem about how rich people never pay for poor people, who strain their budgets to entertain the rich in the style to which they are presumably accustomed. At one time, when I was trying to promote the sale of paintings at a friend's exhibition, somebody put me in touch with a billionaire, who was so fond of his dog that he had provided it with its own Rolls and chauffeur. I was told that he - the billionaire, not the dog - would be certain to be a soft touch to buy a painting. So I dined him and wined him, and, when he was full of my champagne, got him to the exhibition. Apparently his dog was not a patron of the arts, only of automobiles; neither the dog nor the billionaire bought a picture.

Near Ones and Dear Ones is not only the most successful indigenous show done for Israeli television - it is a reflection of the contemptuous attitude of Israel Television to local imaginative work that it was created by Educational Television - it is also of international quality. I find it every bit as slick and professional as most English and American comedy series. It is all the more enjoyable, because it uses Israeli situations and wisecracks, apart from the language the characters speak being Hebrew. It will be interesting to see what comic ideas its producers can find in modern Israel.

I noticed that one joke, about the rapid deterioration of the currency, indicated that the film was made in the days of runaway inflation, before the great stabilization programme came into effect. So the jest fell very



Yehoram Gaon and Liora Rivlin, one of the husband and wife couples in 'Near Ones and Dear Ones'

Triumphant return

flat. It is not easy to mock topical events in Israel: things change at so rapid a speed that today's uproarious crack is incomprehensible tomorrow.

But, again, let us not indulge in nit-picking. We must provide the family with a royal welcome, and pray that their success will inspire others to make Israeli comedies.

IN MY time I must have seen thousands of thrillers, apart from having read perhaps scores of thousands. I have observed with fascinated interest the evolution of the thriller from the adventure tales of Wilkie Collins, Edgar Allan Poe and Arthur Conan Doyle, through the whodunit problems posed by Agatha Christie and Ellery Queen, to the

TELEREVIEW Philip Gillon

combination action-whodunits of Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler and John D. MacDonald. Then the wheel went full circle - we now have action without problems, where we know the villain right away. We are back with adventure, as in *The French Connection*.

But all this training has not equipped me to cope with a new kind of thriller now being shown on television. These are shows which are completely incomprehensible to the average viewer. No clues or explanations are given at the beginning, in

the middle or in the end of what the detectives are detecting.

An example was this week's episode of *Bulman*. There was this sweet old madame, Kate, with a dream of a conservatory in Norwood, who was being persecuted by some foreign character, who is protected, for some reason never explained, by the Home and Foreign Offices. Bulman and Lucy seem to find out by osmosis exactly where to go to find clues, although how I couldn't fathom, and eventually the villain is brought to book because Lucy's friend, a woman columnist, asks him some embarrassing questions, so he smacks her in the kisser, and gets arrested, while Bulman does some sleight-of-hand to steal the mysterious document the villain

made Kate sign four times. What it was all about was beyond me. Generally, this Bulman series has been far below the standard of its predecessor.

Another thriller which had me baffled even after it was all over was *The Treachery Game*, that British three-parter that ended last week, about the CIA hypnotising a blonde to shoot people, and some inoffensive ex-agent being picked on as the fall guy. It was exciting and bewildering, and remains so in retrospect. Even from hindsight, I don't know why people did what they did.

I am not insisting on every string being tied and every knot securely knotted, *a la* Hercule Poirot explaining everything in the final denouement, but I would like to understand what a series or film was all about by the time we reach journey's end. This may seem to be nagging on my part, but it's the way I feel, and there's nothing I can do about it.

WE HAD a terrific television film on Tuesday night, one that we will not soon forget, David Price's *Rainy Day Women*: a BBC exposé of the unlocking of the Nazi spirit in local bullies in a remote British village in 1940. These were members of the Home Guard, g-e-n guns and authority to use them. A German invasion is possible, even probable: "Rainy Day" is the codeword for the beginning of the invasion.

The leader of the bullies, portrayed by an actor with the appropriate name of Hogg, gets his gang to do unspeakable things to a number of women and a boy, before slaughtering them. An ineffectual captain, with psychological problems, gets a warning to the army that a British pogrom is about to take place, and is first ignored and then imprisoned. After finding out that he was right, the army does a *Watergate*: it blows up the house where the bodies are lying, and pretends that it was all done by a German bomber. The captain goes on to become a very successful officer, a pillar of the regiment.

After the discovery of what the Germans had done at Auschwitz and the other camps, it was fashionable to wonder how the Germans - such a cultivated people, who had produced Goethe, Beethoven, etcetera,

etcetera, etcetera - could have been transformed into monsters. It has now become abundantly clear that the only thing that distinguished the Germans from other human monsters is the efficiency with which they put the evil of which man is capable into practical action.

Over the week-end, we were shown the Kach meeting. Large numbers of people have spoken to me about two aspects of it - how horrifying the scenes were, and whether they should have been shown. Those who believe they should not, argue that extremists, like terrorists, thrive on publicity, and that it was a mistake to give them prime time on television.

As against this, chauvinism and xenophobia have grown so strong in Israel that it is ostrich-like to hope that they will disappear if they are not shown on the TV screens. One ex-German phoned me in great distress to say that the Kach film reminded him of the early years of the Nazi Party, before Hitler came to power. He said that at the time the movement was considered something of a minor excrement, which would disappear if ignored: like a man hoping that the signs he sees in himself of a cancer are illusory, and avoids going to a doctor for surgery.

The main character in the Kach show on television was the man with the twisted mouth. I know that it is bad form to refer to a person's looks - somebody once asked me how I would like to be smeared at for my Hapsburg lip, and I replied that I wouldn't mind a reference to proof of my royal lineage. It is possible that his appearance may be due to some physical defect, in which case I apologize for what I am about to write. His mouth gave him a very sinister appearance, as he preached some of the most revolting sentiments ever to be pronounced by a Jew.

What worries me is not that Kach will ever gain power, but the effect they are having on other parties. Nobody in Tebiya or the Likud hopes to win the votes of Shulamit Aloni or Yossi Sarid or Philip Gilon: but they are battling for the votes that might go to Kach. Hence they must outdo Kach. We already see how reluctant the Likud is to outlaw racism.

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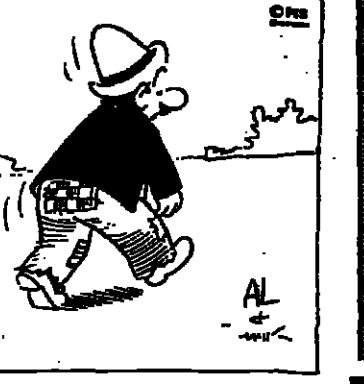
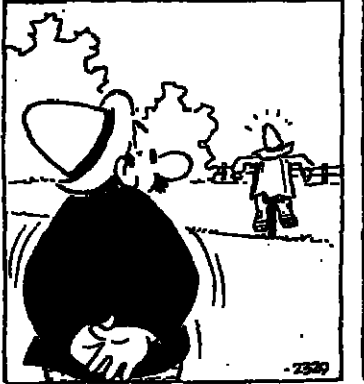
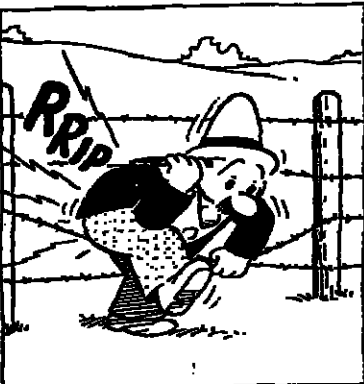
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European, 39, creative, devoted to the beautiful, seeks friendship with young woman active, pleasant, 50 or older. Reply only in English, German or French. POB 405, Hod Hasharon 45103.

Handsome, religious graduate, 29/77, divorced, seeks religious/ultra-orthodox European, 20/16, Sava.

Lawyer, 65, practical engineer, 54, graduate, 60, Em, 02-266024.

Matches for religious and traditional, young and experienced team. 02-824229.

Private, 29 + limited, normal functioning, car, flat, wise company. POB 1138, Kiryat Yam.

Private, 38/80, seeks refined, quiet. POB 569, Tel Aviv.

Religious graduate, European, 28/71, seeks pleasant, interesting. POB 498, Peta Tikva.

Religious, initiated kippa, 27/75, good looking, educated, seeks suitable. POB 6626, Jerusalem 91066.

Scientist, Swedish, brilliant, 37, interested in meeting pretty, Orthodox, 20-30, during coming visit. Ralph Haglund, Le Cio des Vignes B, F-01630, St. Genis-Pouilly, France.

Send NIS 2.93 per word (includes VAT) to POB 2833, Tel Aviv 61686, and your ad appears the following Friday (no cash please).

Serious graduate, handsome, interesting, 38, seeks pretty, educated, Em, 02-266024.

Serious relationship! Nice European, educated, chubby, (divorced, with-out), 50, seeks chubby, similar. POB 2848, Ramat Gan.

Serious, handsome, unattached, 36/77, POB 3481, Tel Aviv.

Single, 32/68, interested in traditional, up to 30, POB 127, BeerSheva, for Aleph.

Single, 36, educated, established, seeks suitable. POB 37048, Tel Aviv.

Single, graduate, 27/80, seeks Jewish foreign resident for serious purpose. POB 31214, Tel Aviv.

Single, graduate, with white hair, 33/61, seeks suitable, with charm, for serious purpose. POB 2332, Tel Aviv.

Jewish foreign residents worldwide seek Israeli, educated, for marriage. 02-232077.

European, handsome, sporty, 67/69, POB 687, Haifa.

Single, 34, handsome, seeks serious young woman. POB 28324, Tel Aviv, for 713.

Widower, attractive, 41/83, for serious purpose. POB 31254.

44/66 seeks religious/traditional, for marriage. POB 37114, Tel Aviv.

Doctor, 37/73, handsome, very intelligent, seeking similar graduate. POB 2946, Holon.

Single, 26, handsome, established, seeking compatible for marriage. Ben-Bar, 02-238740, 10.00-12.00.

Personal
53/75, European, handsome, seeks discreet friend(1), preferably disappointed in marriage. POB 2928, Holon.

American, academic, 55/80, handsome, seeking cultured woman for intimacy, friendship. Answer in English. POB 28233, Tel Aviv 61686, for 217.

Fortune teller solves problems and calms nerves. 02-506079.

Graduate, 47, seeks discreet friend(1) for intimacy, include telephone. POB 271, Kiryat.

Graduate, handsome, 40/90, seeks warm discreet friend(1). POB 53063, Tel Aviv 61331.

Graduate, 38/78, seeks travel partner to Romania. 02-804770.

Israeli bachelor, architect, 33, in U.S.A., seeks to correspond to serious women for serious purpose, visiting in summer. Joshua Pezman, 9110 Glenmore Dr., Pasadena CA 91105 USA.

Kasher pamphlets for singles, the direct, intelligent way to meet people. To receive, dial now! 02-732639, 04-40108, also Saturday, (national pamphlets).

Handsome man interested in attractive young woman for intimate, discreet relationship. POB 118, Haifa.

Handsome engineer(1), 41/70, seeks woman friend. POB 1538, Haifa.

Kibbutznik(1), 30, graduate, unavailable, seeks interesting(1) for spiritual and physical relationship. POB 3078, Tel Aviv.

Refined(1), wise, deep, 29, seeks quality(1), cultured, for meaningful relationship. POB 70, Savyon.

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Unavailable, 48/75, handsome, wise, seeks intelligent for long-term friendship. POB 3060, Netanya.

Engineer, single, handsome, attractive, 17/528, seeks young, good looking, with depth and sense of humor. POB 8971, Ramat Gan.

Seeking to meet foreign residents? Advertise in "Israel Shiluv" in America through Pnina Hen. 244415.

Horoscope sent date of birth + NIS 10 to POB 50818, Tel Aviv and you'll receive your horoscope.

In singles group, room for several people, 100 sq. m., POB 16466, for 713, include telephone.

Painting and drawing lessons, 47 Biala, Tel Aviv, 61431.

The club! Home club for available, human relations and psychology basic, 3 age groups. 02-827629.

Available, ages 30+, group meeting for intensive work on personal relations, led by specialist clinical psychologists. 02-741032, 02-40708. Newy week's meeting needs women.

Groups
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Workshop for singles, led by psychologists, under the auspices of Tel Aviv's workers' council. 052-44047.

English conversation meetings, with American teachers from The Berkeley Institute. Free introduction meeting. 02-227474.

Graduate singles group now adding cultured European, 40-55. POB 1886, Be'er Brak.

General

For sale, farm on moshav + new cottage, for serious. 08-439382.

Interested in avocado-pocan and citrus areas for chopping. 25/016, 29/398.

Sale/changing, active farm + house, Moshav Neot Hakikar. 02-762149.

Bargain, house + orchard + field crops, 50/000, Tammuz settlements. 065-9232, 065-9289.

For sale, 2400m hectares and house, concrete. 02-43590, 063-68817.

Sale, 25 families of bees, well kept, healthy. 063-83511.

Drip irrigation pipes, 16 per metre. 100 dozens, 063-23367.

Farm, house, water, 3200m. Helman, Emek Hefer. 02-540400.

For sale, farm, Kfar Warburg, bargain. 24391/1885.

Persimmon, peach seedlings of all varieties for sale. Brantstein Nurseries, Moshav Beit Shearim, 04-93300.

Rehovot, 100 dunam private land + water rights, for sale. 02-656481, work. 02-656481.

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You have never before offered such cheap, fruitful offers new irrigation computers for agriculture. Introduce your offer, 100 computers at 25% discount inclusive. Call to order our nearest servicemen today. Introl, 052-558190, 052-556270.

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Nikon FE and F2, 1 lenses and accessories, new condition. 052-44996.

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Graphics and drawing, mornings and evenings, with known artists. 836947.

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Hansviki! Cleaning, polishing, pest extermination, license 2200, guaranteed. 02-313599.

Extra polish and cleaning + pest extermination, guaranteed work. 02-37615.

Renovation, painting, wallpaper, PVC floor, 9 Akeredot, Ramat Gan. 732496.

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Zeev, bathtub renewal in your home, country-wide, guaranteed. 052-78882, 04-33454.

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Sauna + massage by masseuses, exclusive atmosphere. 36 Hovevei Zion, 02-286818.

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Partner (1) for annual trip to U.S., immediate departure. 02-713994.

Vacations
Elit, 4 furnished, lit, carpets, for daily vacations. 02-443556.

Jerusalem Flats

Contractors
Har No, 4-5, immediate occupancy, high standard. Sales office: 11/00-13/00, 11 Rehov Tayeb or 02-22111.

Maale Admunim, cottage, 4, garden, well equipped kitchen, southern. 02-23301.

Ramat Sharet, Ahim Yisrael are building 3-4-5 room flats + dinette. Sales: Zimki, 21451-4.

Ramat, terraced building, 3 room flats, for eligible; 5 rooms, 4 room cottages. 02-23440, 02-227775.

Abu Tor, 3-4-5, almost finished. Pfefferberg-Kaufman. 02-225788, 02-21694.

Armona, cottages, 4 1/2 + garden; 5 + large balcony. Atzmomim, 534177, 664861.

Har No, 4 and 5 rooms, luxurious + elegant, 16,000 loans for purchasers. 637401, Zaron.

New Granot, luxurious flat, available immediately. Peretz Engineers. 639779, 02-657493.

Har No, Shiluv Aleph, flats and penthouses, all sizes. Deal Israel America. 02-817657.

Har No, new project, available within 4-5 months, penthouses, gardens, reasonable prices. Ortal, 02-286858, 02-287973.

In Har No, nice selection of flats: finished and under construction, special offer: 4 1/2, penthouse, 900,000, 4 room, 575,000, come to the experts. Michael Starr Ltd., 02-223017, 28993 (Malden).

Your flat will reach everybody in Israel and America when advertising in Lush Hebrew through Pnina Hen. 244415.

Har No! Ramot! 3-4-5, penthouses possible or gardens, southern, nearing completion. Lopian Assoc., 02-863348.

Har No, immediate, 3, 4 room flats, penthouses, beautiful view. Atzmomim, 534177, 664861.

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Givat Hamivrot in 2-family! 3 bedrooms, view, 190,000. Cohen, 24431066.

Most sell, not at any price, villa, Ramot, Build Your Own Home area. 02-877262.

Ramat, Build-Your-Own-home, semi-detached villa, 5, storehouse, completed, 195,000, Anglo-Saxon, 02-21161.

Talpiot, villa (cottage), 360sq.m. residential area + 100sq.m. basement (like flat), private garden, 370sq.m. area. 02-690111.

Mevasseret, luxurious villa + swimming pool, immediate. 02-343310, 02-22707.

German Colony, cottage, 6 + bathroom + garden, garage, garden. Capital, 02-532131.

German Colony, entire floor, must sell, bargain. Am Gar, 02-816933, Malden.

German Colony, very special, must sell, 300,000. Keys at Lafayette Villa. 766369, 765384.

Luxurious cottage, San Martin, 6 + 3 conveniences, walk-in closet, 3 storehouses, garden. 126,000, 412355.

Mevasseret, in two-bays, 9 rooms, 300sq.m., garden, 160,000, 02-61122.

Mevasseret, pretty villa, choice of houses, 16 Givat Aleph, new villa. Kiryat Yovel centre, cottage; Givat Hamivrot, bargain villa. Elud Realty. 02-341827.

Greek Colony, villa + large garden, expansion possible. Residence. 24391/1885.

Old Katamon, Gonen Wood, Rehov Hakikar, 4, buy building rights and save money. Arab flats, new villa, 16-24 rooms, villas. Details on location. Monday-Thursdays, 08.00-12.00. Filed man Realty, 666423, Malden.

Ramat Motza, villa, 4 + building permit. Beit Zayit, villa, also Moshav Shor'eva. Hamistrad Lenechamim. 243337, 356307.

Ramat, luxurious 6 room cottages, available immediately. Avram, 97 Rehov Yaffo, Jerusalem, 02-247333.

Armona, penthouse, 6 rooms, villa area, private entrance, private parking, 4 exposures, new. PNM, 233335.

Baka, original Arab house, one storey, garden, balconies, special, 122,000. Exclusive to Mital Realty, 227412, evenings; 941855, Saturday.

Bargain in Armona Special house, possibility of 2 luxurious cottages. 1 Ben Yehuda, 234076.

German Colony, 4, entire floor, 160sq.m., terraces. 138,000. Yagor, 733737.

Greek Colony! 5-6 room cottages, garden, terrace, from 175,000. Cohen, 2331056.

Greek Colony, Arab house, suitable for 2 families, excellent, quiet location. Corinne-Davar, 532131-1604.

New Diplomat Hotel, 3rd floor, splendid view. 716680.

Ramat (2) 6 room cottage, garden. 140,000. Binyanai Iso, 02-227414.

Ramat, 6 room cottage, Build Your Own Home, studio, separate entrance, view. 52494, evenings.

Unique bargain! Givat Hamivrot, 7 room villa, building permits. 819878, 812728.

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Baka, incredibly luxurious, 5, 180sq.m., 1st floor, terrace, garden, parking, 190,000. Exclusive to Dassy (Malden), 243951.

Baka, luxurious 2-level, 6v, 220sq.m., 60sq.m. salon, terraces, parking, 240,000. Exclusive to Dassy (Malden), 243951.

Beit Hakikar, Hehalut, cottage, 4v, garden, garage, storehouse, private heating. 02-50100, Bukovka Realty. 532428, 530513.

Maale Ephraim, detached villa, 14, 2400m garden, additions. 02-761894.

Religious in Ramot! Group now organizing to build cottages with tiled roofs, gardens, view. Lopian Assoc., 02-863348.

Talpiot, lowest penthouse in city, 7 room, view, balconies, immediate. 690771.

Talpiot, cottage, 6, new, large garden, immediate. 690771.

Flats for Sale
King David Court, 2, luxury, ideal for investment or family housing. Exclusive. Ambassador, 02-668101.

Group organizing to purchase building, 16 Bats, Pigeon, 2-3-4 room, attractive prices (also for eligible). Binyanai Iso, 02-247274.

Terraced garden flats in Eilat, balconies and gardens, enlargement possible. 45,000; 4-5 room cottages + garden from 59,000; VAT not included, increased mortgages, convenient payments. Binyanai Iso, 02-227414.

1-1 1/2 ROOMS
Heart of Colony, Arab, detached, complete 1-room flat, garden, tabo, 20,000. Jerusalem No. 1, 243679.

225sq.m., division into separate units for parents, children or office: special price. Ambassador, 02-668101.

Givat Sharet, Beit Shoshana, villa, 4, swimming pool, 715sq.m., 02-914256.

Kiryat Wolfson, villa, 5, large terrace, facing Knesset, immediate, exclusive. Ambassador, 02-668101.

Luxurious villa, 6, 280sq.m., garden 800sq.m., Shmaryahu Levin area, for the discriminating, 325,000, exclusive to Anglo-Saxon (Malden), 02-221161.

Ma'ale Admunim, perfect cottage, 5 room balcony, garden, additions. 02-25334.

Givat Hamivrot in 2-family! 3 bedrooms, view, 190,000. Cohen, 24431066.

2-2 1/2 ROOMS
Maale Admunim, 2 balconies, 1st floor, solar boiler, well-lit, well arranged. 02-251491.

Pai Junction, 2 + 2 gardens, balcony, construction possible, 29,000, 41369.

Ramat (2), 2 + large kitchen, ground floor. 02-674729, 558572.

Stern, 2, 3rd floor, phone, additions, immediate. 224593, 242888.

Meir Avner, 2 1/2 + building terrace. Aryeh Realty, 24132046.

New Shalom, 2, special, garden, near Beit Elsheva, 2 small, T.A.C., 631764, Malden.

Ramat Aleph, 2 room flat, 1st floor, cupboards, solar boiler, immediate. 875348.

Ramat, excellent location, 863225, weekdays; 515259, work.

Gilo Bet, 2, special, 64sq.m., private. 715054.

Kiryat Moshe, Rehov Shoshana, 2, well arranged, close to yard and garden, solar boiler, excellent for singles, couples and disabled. 02-52604.

Kiryat Shalom, 2 balconies, heating, view, 4th floor, 30,000. Better Bayit, 02-639345, Malden.

Talpiot, 2, well arranged, 24,000. 2 + 2 view, 22,000. Truchin, 23211-3-4.

Bargain! Armona Hamivrot, Dor Goren, 2, garden, 34,000, Truchin, 613100.

For quick decisions, Maale Admunim, 3 + yard, excellent location. 02-252401.

Gilo Bet, 3, spacious, storehouse, yard, 45,000, 761675.

Grav Ze'ev, Ramot, 3 rooms, 3rd floor, large balcony. 823672.

Herzog, stone, 3 nice, sun balconies. T.A.C., 631764, Malden.

Kiryat Moshe, 3, ground floor, well arranged, southern. Toviv Bier, 72623, Malden.

Kovshik Katamon, 3, pretty, bargain. Lafayette Realty, 66618-9.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

Beit Hakerem, 3, partially furnished, phone, bargain, 240. 22434-5.

East Talpott, 2, beautiful, well arranged, long-term term. K'ney U'mey, 638655, 665660.

Hekhalut, Beit Hakerem, 3 1/2, large, furnished, long term possible, 52122, 343955.

Kiryat Shimon, 3, furnished, long term, 320. Zimki, 22141-4, Maldon.

Kiryat Shimon, 3, furnished, phone, 6-8 months, 661586.

Raisco, 2 furnished rooms, phone, 66579.

Beit Hakerem, 2, phone, solar boiler, heating, entrance door, 02-234376.

Metulda, for tourists, 2 rooms, 1st floor, fully furnished, Ortal, 02-28800, 02-287973.

Tablith, for year from April, 4 rooms, luxuriously furnished, 2 balconies, double conveniences, parking, south-east exposure, 02-68236.

Your ad will reach everybody in the country and America when advertising through Pirum Zamin, 244415.

Beit Hakerem, 4, 4th floor, lift, 330, view, Doran, 242622.

Gilo Dali, 3, phone, solar boiler, 1st and 2nd floors, 60401, weekdays.

Kiryat Yovel center, 3 room flat, unfurnished, 418973.

Pagat Zeev, 3/4, 4th floor, private heating, 527042, not Shabbat.

Ramat Shimon, 3, lovely, view, solar boiler, March-September, 665450.

Tourists, Rehavia, 3, balconies, sheets, towels, Menachem Realty, 249579.

Flats Wanted

Gilo Seeking to buy immediately? Top floor, 3, balcony, near new commercial center, 76530, Henu, evenings.

We have a buyer, immediately? 3, balcony, 4th floor, Gilo Bet. Phone now! Clamish Realty, 761155.

Institution requires building/villa, preferably 1st floor, 02-823633.

Required for rental, 3/4-4 room flat, Rehavia, Talbich, ground floor, 66290, 244811.

American family seeks luxury flat, 250-300sq.m., Yemin Moshe, Rehavia, Talbich, K'ney U'mey, 638655, 665660.

Seeking 4 room flat (or more), ground (entrance) floor, solar boiler, East Talpott, Talpott or area, up to 35,000, 02-55604, no agents.

Urgent: Ramot and Ramat Eshkol, 4, in cash, up to 62,000, no agents, 861153.

2-3 room flat required, 81986, no agents.

Urgently 3-4 room flat required. Armon Hanatzy, client with cash! PNM, 233335.

We urgently need in Maalot Elham (East Talpott) a 4 room flat + balcony, 02-718381.

Seeking cottage/flat of 4-5 rooms, Ramot, without agent, 863475.

Wish to purchase 3 room flat, Ramot 03, for NIS 65,000, not top floor, 432481.

Purchase Sale

Cherrywood double bed, super king size + additions, 02-415336.

Cupboards, bed-headboard combo, desk, Sauray oven, 663012.

Industrial refrigerator, heating-cooling, new video, 442361, 521739.

Piano, bookshelves, grill, mixer, ventilator, blow-dryer, blouses, 833466.

Sweat electronic cash register, burglar, 02-539933.

Washing-machine, Leove Opta color television, 665933, 221924.

Flat contents + new used well kept electrical appliances, 02-634124, 02-634694.

Weight set + weight bench, Fladira, manual washing machine, 40,000, 243608.

Olum-Wash speakers, 100 watt per channel, table for stereo system, 69112.

Apple 2.E., Sanyo stereo, lounge suite, 300, 02-434195.

Dial 539662 to Pirum Zamin and your ad will appear in Hahab Hahadash at campaign prices, and you receive a 3-D poster as a special gift. Pirum Zamin, Mekor Baruch industrial area.

General Electric refrigerator, American oven, baby's crib, youth bed, television, stereo, 765639.

Furnish gift! Exclusive color photographs from Jerusalem - wall clock 30x40 on Jerusalem background, NIS 34.50 instead of NIS 67.50. Clal Building, room 252, 02-245644, afternoons.

Apple compatible computer: Spring + 2 disk drives, screen, 500, 243574.

Double bed, piano, Alcatel radio system, 769065.

New Brother Hebrew manual typewriter, 72385, 349591.

Shower bookcase + table and chest-of-drawers combination; lounge set, 521472.

Computers

New, worth buying computers at Bug Apple, Commodore, Amstrad, 02-249226.

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Furniture

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Musical Instruments

Harpinet, 12 Ben Sirah, sale, repair and tuning of piano, 244166.

Musicians and singers! Do you want to study studio/home recordings? Lessons for synths, music-computers, and sequencers? Need music or arrangements? Call 02-525604 today!

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Sale, Italian Furini organ, model 450, year's guarantee, 02-283640.

Organs, rental, sales, exchange, Piano Centre, used piano, tuning, repairs, exchange, advice, 16 King George, 227984.

Pets

Pedigree Saluki puppies, champion's line, Jerusalem, 02-418315.

Boner puppy, brindled, beautiful, NIS 330, 712101.

Giant poodle puppies, pedigree, with certificates, beautiful, 02-417986.

Purchase

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Interested in buying American television, NTSC system, 02-536384.

Personnel

Situations Vacant

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Contracting company requires experienced bookkeeper including clerical work, 814382.

Domestic required, references, Ramat Eshkol, 02-812648, not Shabbat.

English-Hebrew secretary-typist, part time, interesting medical academic background, 02-241130, evenings, not Shabbat.

Ex-army messenger required, part time, Tel Aviv, 02-660884, 02-695529.

Hairdresser requires cleaning personnel, afternoons, good conditions, 536204.

Increase your earnings! Experienced real estate salesperson required to join Ambassador's professional team. Self-starter ready to accept responsibility who is interested in a career. Must be bilingual and have a car. Phone Ambassador today, 02-668101.

Mid-East restaurant requires excellent cook and chef de cuisine, 521374.

Mid-East restaurant requires: 1) Dynamic salesperson, 2) secretary, 3) receptionist, all for suitable, 241130, evenings, not Shabbat.

Technician and worker to manage electronic products and hearing aids shop, references, 02-234662, 02-664851.

Workers required for Akademon shop, full/part time, 02-58204.

Air conditioning specialist required, experience in managing team, 02-536338, 02-526076.

Architects office, architect, landscape architect, at least 5 years' experience, 02-419143.

Beauty hostess for Mustafa Femen, cosmetics manufacturers, 247294.

Carpenter/jack-of-all-trades, with carpentry know-how, 02-520538.

Contracting company requires office manager, full-time, 699226.

Dental assistant required, previous experience not required, 233985.

Dynamic, active insurance agency requires experienced bookkeeper + elementary department worker, 02-233028, 02-248577.

Experienced graphic artist for interesting work, full-time, 6-figures salary, 02-55604, no agents.

Urgent: Ramot and Ramat Eshkol, 4, in cash, up to 62,000, no agents, 861153.

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Cashier required + experience in mini-market, good conditions, Jewish Quarter, 248316.

Contracting company requires experienced bookkeeper including clerical work, 814382.

Domestic required, references, Ramat Eshkol, 02-812648, not Shabbat.

English-Hebrew secretary-typist, part time, interesting medical academic background, 02-241130, evenings, not Shabbat.

Ex-army messenger required, part time, Tel Aviv, 02-660884, 02-695529.

Hairdresser requires cleaning personnel, afternoons, good conditions, 536204.

Increase your earnings! Experienced real estate salesperson required to join Ambassador's professional team. Self-starter ready to accept responsibility who is interested in a career. Must be bilingual and have a car. Phone Ambassador today, 02-668101.

Mid-East restaurant requires excellent cook and chef de cuisine, 521374.

Mid-East restaurant requires: 1) Dynamic salesperson, 2) secretary, 3) receptionist, all for suitable, 241130, evenings, not Shabbat.

Technician and worker to manage electronic products and hearing aids shop, references, 02-234662, 02-664851.

Workers required for Akademon shop, full/part time, 02-58204.

Air conditioning specialist required, experience in managing team, 02-536338, 02-526076.

Architects office, architect, landscape architect, at least 5 years' experience, 02-419143.

Beauty hostess for Mustafa Femen, cosmetics manufacturers, 247294.

Carpenter/jack-of-all-trades, with carpentry know-how, 02-520538.

Contracting company requires office manager, full-time, 699226.

Dental assistant required, previous experience not required, 233985.

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Purchase

Interested in buying office furniture, good condition, Call, 815338.

Interested in buying American television, NTSC system, 02-536384.

Personnel

Situations Vacant

Cashier required + experience in mini-market, good conditions, Jewish Quarter, 248316.

Contracting company requires experienced bookkeeper including clerical work, 814382.

Domestic required, references, Ramat Eshkol, 02-812648, not Shabbat.

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Dental assistant required, previous experience not required, 233985.

Dynamic, active insurance agency

Out of the textbook and into the fire

Harsh experience has forced the country's economists to alter their views. Avi Temkin reports.

ISRAELI economists have travelled a long way in the last 15 years. Reality has forced them to abandon the relatively simple world of abstract models based on the American or European realities, and to face the complexities of the Israeli economy. The process was not a simple one. Personal and academic reputations were at stake. Neither was it a cheap process. It took an inflation rate of some 800 per cent for the country's mainstream economists to correct their views.

In the last decade and a half, the economy has witnessed two wars, one mini-war, two oil price crises and one experiment with exchange rate liberalization. It was the country's economists' task to find ways to adapt the economy to the new conditions created by these external shocks, while at the same time creating conditions for a structural change that would transfer resources from the services to the productive sector.

When the Israel Economic Association met on Tuesday for its annual conference, a partial summing up of these efforts emerged. On both the theoretical and practical levels, they had failed. True, economists have emerged from the last 15 years with a better understanding of the economy, but this was achieved at great cost.

Some 10 years ago, at another meeting of the association, a paper

by Zvi Sussman and Yael Aristein articulated in a systematic way what had become the standard view over the years. To transfer resources to industry, especially industry producing exportable goods, it is necessary to implement a "real devaluation" of the local currency - i.e., a rate of devaluation higher than the accumulated rate of inflation. And, to ensure that the devaluation not be wiped out by inflation, wage increases must be restrained and public and private expenditure cut.

These views were soon implemented by the government and the Bank of Israel. From the early 1970s until 1985, on and off, they tried to achieve that elusive "real devaluation." One way or another, however, the public has always outsmarted the economists. Wages and standards of living, far from falling, actually rose. Inflation did not go down, but developed into hyperinflation in 1984. The policy's only "achievement" was a slowdown in economic growth, from 7 per cent a year in the 1969-1973 years to some 2 per cent a year in the last decade.

The basic reasoning behind this policy is that if the government succeeds in controlling expenditure and wages following a devaluation, then purchasing power will go down and labour costs will not rise by as much as the rate of devaluation. Thus, the increase in inflation that usually fol-

lows a devaluation would not be so large, and it would be only temporary.

This week, 10 years after the Aristein-Sussman paper was presented, the association members were presented with a new paper by Liora Meridor, a senior economist at the Bank of Israel, from which it emerges that there is no clear-cut, direct link between the government deficit and the rate of inflation. The latter, says Meridor in her report, is in fact determined by the rate of devaluation.

These ideas can be taken one step further. It is possible to state that government deficits and monetary injections are a positive function of the rate of inflation. In other words, since most government spending is linked to prices, but taxes are not, the deficit will increase every time the inflation rate goes up. Moreover, the uncertainty that accompanies varying rates of devaluation and inflation will convince the public that the best hedge against the potential plans of the government is to buy foreign currency and sell shekel assets.

To understand the difference between this latter view and the "orthodox" one, it is enough to look at the results of the policy implemented by Yigal Cohen-Orgad, in 1984, and those of the current economic plan. When Cohen-Orgad was finance minister, his stated priority was to boost exports and cut imports. The shekel was devalued at an accelerated rate, subsidies for basic commodities cut and controlled prices increased. The result was a new jump in inflation, which increased the deficit and monetary injections, and a wave of speculative purchases of dollars, financed with the money pumped by the government. The government's reaction was to increase even more the rate of devaluation - which pushed the rate of inflation even further: this enlarged the deficit and financed more speculative purchases.

The plan launched in July has had more luck than other plans. But it was also based on solid foundations: the other plans lacked. The frozen exchange rate served as a powerful anchor which provided the economy with much needed stability.

The theoretical views on which the stabilization plan was partially based are not new. They were developed by a minority among the profession, whose views were put forward five years ago by Meridor and Uri Litvin, another Bank of Israel economist, at yet another meeting of the association. They were also expressed by Yakkir Plessner, who was later appointed deputy governor of the Bank of Israel.

Plessner reasoned that the rate of inflation is directly linked to the rate of increase in wages and to the rate of devaluation. Thus, if he could synchronize the rate of increase of controlled prices, the exchange rate and wages, he could expect a similar rate of increase in other prices. This opened the way for a gradual reduction in inflation, by gradually reducing the other three factors.

When Plessner's views were implemented by then finance minister Yoram Aridor, the Treasury was not able to secure the collaboration of the Histadrut and the private employers. Wages kept rising since the industrialists assumed that they could prevent labour unrest by paying higher wages, and that sooner or later the government would devalue to erode the higher salaries.

Plessner and Aridor were not able to control public expenditure, which rose as a result of the war in Lebanon. This soon financed a spending spree, which put unnecessary strains on the balance of payments.

These two factors ruined the chances of the plan even before it was implemented. It was Aridor's costly error to try to implement the plan despite these developments.

Thus, policy and theory have travelled a long way from the days when the public was considered a passive element in economic policy. Economists have learned that the Israeli economy is very different from the textbook model. One can only regret the high price we all had to pay to learn this simple truth.



Yoram Aridor...an inability to control public expenditure helped to spoil an economic plan before it was implemented. (Yossi Zamir)



Oil prices go up and down - but coal is still king, at least for the time being, says the Energy Ministry. Above is a view of the Hadera power station under construction, where coal will continue to burn. (R. Nowitz)

HARD-HEADED THINKING

A COUNTRY'S army, they say, marches on its stomach. Since the Industrial Revolution, a country's economy marches on its fuel supplies and its electric power stations.

What happens when food prices begin to tumble? Does the army throw away its pantries, larders and food warehouses? Not by a long shot! The slide in world crude oil prices that began about five months ago continues, and is even gaining momentum. Hardly a day goes by without reports of further price cuts by this or that oil-producing country.

On the world's stock exchanges, share price indices keep soaring, breaking records almost daily, as lower energy prices hold out higher earnings for thousands of industrial firms.

At the Energy Ministry in Jerusalem, all this excitement over plummeting oil prices is being tempered by some hard-headed thinking about the longer term.

"We are not going to rush out and convert our coal-fired power stations to mazut (residual oil) - no, not yet," says Dr. Ilan Maoz, director of the ministry's policy and planning department.

Maoz, a veteran university-based fuel economist, was called in by former Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i as a policy adviser, and was retained by Moshe Shahal when he took over the ministry.

At Maoz's initiative, Shahal announced yesterday that the Hadera and Ashkelon power stations will continue to use coal despite the drop in oil prices. What is more, even the power stations still on the drawing boards - both in the Haifa area and tentatively named Unit Three and Unit Four - will be based on coal.

BUSINESS BEAT / Aaron Sittner

Moreover, the ministry is still going to support companies' ongoing programmes of converting from oil to coal for their operations. Among the most recent newcomers to coal are the Nesher Cement plants at Ramle and Hartuv, Israel Phosphates, Izhar Edible Oils, Tet Bet Foods and Argaman Textiles.

Only new plans by manufacturers to convert to coal will be ignored - and this may change in time. Maoz stressed, "as soon as the world oil market regains stability."

But full ministry support will continue for research-and-development activities aimed at developing alternative sources of energy. These include solar energy, geothermal-feed turbine driven systems, shale oil, wind-power and hydro-electricity.

"In setting national energy policy," Maoz explains, "you must maintain a balance in your thinking between the long term and the short term. Just as world crude oil prices are now falling sharply, they can suddenly stage a turnaround and start a steep ascent."

In addition, R&D in the field of energy is more for Israel than a search for new energy sources. Energy R&D is a valuable export item, whose growth could substantially help narrow the country's wide balance-of-payments chasm.

"A steady supply of energy is absolutely vital in a frequently hostile world marketplace. We have no choice but to continue our policy of active stockpiling."

Another "non-price" consideration tipping the scales in favour of coal is the ecological element. The Energy Ministry has it from the Environmental Protection Service that all things considered, a coal-fired power station poses less of a nuisance as an air polluter than does a mazut-fired installation.

At this writing, Israel is paying about \$16 per barrel for its Egyptian crude, about \$14 for mazut (either imported or locally produced) and \$57 a ton for coal.

Maoz, admitting that "I'm an economist, not a prognosticator," now looks for a 4 to 12 per cent drop in world coal prices by 1990, compared with the average price in 1985, and for a drop of 15 to 40 per cent world crude oil prices by 1990.

But he hastens to add that in economic terms, the price of any fuel must be adjusted upwards to account for the investment and cost of building new power stations, be they oil or coal-fired ones. Israel's policy has been, and remains, to plan all future power plants as dual-fuel installations, even if construction of such plants is slightly more costly than single-fuel types.

To underscore the folly of discarding operational schemes in the face of price swings, Maoz notes that whereas the price of coal on the Rotterdam spot market dropped by 15 per cent between 1984 and 1985, this welcome development came on the heels of a 30 per cent rise in price between 1983 and 1984.

"You've got to have three pairs of eyes at work all at the same time, when you try to set Israel's fuel procurement policy," he tells you. "With one set you must look at the past; with the second set, at the present; and with the third, at the future."

Neo-Biblio-Greco-Roman



A horde of meaty men invaded Beersheba this week for the express purpose of slamming each other to the ground. They came here from Europe, America and throughout Israel, seventy of them, the big fellows of sport, to take part in an international wrestling tournament.

Unlike the professional wrestlers who visited Israel some months ago, these grapplers don't have nicknames like the Crippler, the Iceman or the Missing Link. This is Greco-Roman wrestling, and it's serious. Every grunt, snort and snarl is real. No outrageous costumes, no good guys and bad guys, no cries of "fake," and accordingly, few spectators.

The sport is not foreign to this country; in fact, they go back a long way together, to Biblical times, when Jacob outpointed the angel. Getting back to his feet, the divine messenger blessed the victor with a new name, "The One Who Wrestled With God" - or, in Hebrew - "Yisrael."

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The case for diesel-power cars

PURSE STRINGS / David Krivine



The Peugeot 205, which comes in petrol and diesel versions.

DIESEL engines used to be noisy and smelly, suitable only for heavy trucks. Lately their construction has improved beyond recognition and the world is now flooded with diesel passenger-cars - except for Israel.

The problem in Israel is that a litre of solar (fuel for diesel engines) costs the motorist 60 agorot (40 cents) at the pump, whereas a litre of petrol (96 octane) costs him NIS 1.01 (67 cents), or two-thirds more. Petrol is taxed because that is a way of penalizing the luxury of private motoring.

If diesel cars were available everybody would buy them because the fuel is (relatively) cheap; so their import is forbidden. Does that make sense?

To my surprise and gratification the Treasury thinks not. Its reasoning is as follows: a diesel car is more expensive to buy than a petrol car, but cheaper to run (assuming petrol and solar are taxed the same). So which car is more economical in foreign currency? It depends on the amount of travel done. If you drive less than 17,000km. a year, the petrol car works out cheaper; if more than 17,000km. a year, the diesel is cheaper.

These calculations were made a couple of years ago. I suspect the odds have moved in favour of the diesel since then, because the difference in purchase price has narrowed. In three examples I culled from the columns of the British "Motor" magazine, the differences range from 3.5 per cent to a modest 7.5 per cent.

A Peugeot 205 petrol car is listed at \$5,925 and the diesel version at \$6,325, a difference of only \$400. A Citroen BX costs \$7,415, and \$7,663 for the diesel, yielding an even smaller margin of \$248.

A Ford Sierra costs \$6,954, the diesel fetching \$7,461, a difference in round numbers of \$500.

Says Yoram Gabbay, deputy director of the Internal Revenue Department: "People should be free to choose; our tax system ought not to distort the market." What about the difference in fuel prices due to the tax on petrol? "That could be offset by the imposition of an extra annual licence-fee on diesel cars, big enough - on the average - to make up for the difference in fuel costs."

If that were done and the import

of diesels allowed, would the public surge to buy them? Not sure. On the one hand, the diesel engine is more trouble-free and long-lived. On the other hand it is slower. The Citroen BX gets from zero to 60 mph in 10.8 seconds, the diesel version in 14.4 seconds. The lag in the Ford Sierra is even greater.

On the other hand the smaller Peugeot 205 diesel shows a better performance, getting to 60 mph in 13.9 seconds, as against 12.8 seconds for the petrol model.

The best answer would be to let the public make its own choice, but the Transport Ministry blocks all change. Why? I could not get a clear answer out of them. I suspect, they don't really know.

GLOBE-TROTTER Every time a minister, civil servant or Jewish Agency official travels abroad at the state's expense there is a hue and cry, as though foreign trips were pleasure not work, and therefore a waste of public money.

Travel is of course fun if you go overseas for the first time, whatever the purpose of the trip. Subsequent expeditions are fun too, if they are to places you have never seen before,

or even to familiar places - provided you are on holiday.

But repeated journeys to the same destination for business reasons can pall. It is nice to get away from office routine and all that, but it is also a lot of bother. As the French novelist J. K. Huysmans once wrote: "The pleasure of travel exists in retrospect but seldom in the present, at the instant when it is being experienced."

And he was not talking about flights by El Al from airport to airport to attend Jewish Agency conferences.

The latest exodus of Agency heads to attend the Board of Governors meeting just concluded in New York was widely excoriated - though according to regulations one in four of the Board's meetings (held every quarter) is supposed to take place in the Diaspora.

The above regulation has been systematically disobeyed in the last five years, with all sessions held in Israel - till the Diaspora thought their turn had come. But leaving that aside, is there really any great economy if the governors foregather here instead?

Travelling by air from New York to Israel costs as much as the other

way round. Not all the foreign delegates charge the bill to the UJA or other sponsoring organization, but most do, and there are 50 per cent more of them on the board than of Israelis.

More important, Israel has business with the Jewish Diaspora: maintaining cultural links, garnering financial support, above all fostering immigration. These things cannot be achieved without personal contact. If Agency officials and government representatives were to sit on their backsides perpetually in Jerusalem, they could be economizing on fares and hotel-bills, but they would not be doing the job - which must be done by somebody - of tightening Israel's bonds with world Jewry.

Whether they do it well is another matter. It would be legitimate to scan who are sent abroad, what for and how they spend their time there. If a public figure visits 15 communities in ten days as required by the Agency's Information Department, addressing meetings morning, afternoon and evening, he deserves to be commended, not abused.

GARBAGE SOCIALISM Bernard Shaw (I think it was) observed that a man under 40 who is not a socialist has no heart, and a man over 40 who remains a socialist has no brain.

By that test I had a heart when I was young, but outgrew my socialist fervour in the hard school of life. What dealt the last finishing blow to my illusions was... the local garbage disposal unit in Beit Hakerem.

Twice a week they empty my dustbin and replace it in front of my garden gate. I do not want it in front of my garden gate, so twice a week I wheel it to its proper place five yards away, in front of my garden gate.

For endless years I have been doing that. The dustmen never put the bin back where they found it, they always replace it where I don't want it, in front of my garden gate.

Malice? Not at all, they have nothing against me. They just don't notice. They are civil servants, salaried by the local authority. Their job is to empty dustbins - for the municipal pality, not for the customer. The customer does not pay them anything, so he does not exist. It is as if he was not there.

סוכן מן הארץ

MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Burnt-out Brenna

Remember Leroy Brenna? It's hardly likely that you do, because the Texan mutual fund manager never became a household name in this country. But the point is that he tried to and failed, and therein lies a tale, and maybe a moral.

In late 1984, when the national unity government was new, inflation was high and the balance-of-payments gap yawned wider and wider, there was a lot of talk of investing in Israeli high-tech industry as the method to change the face of the economy and maybe even the society. The prime minister, the finance minister and the industry and trade minister, who all got along fine at the time, used to talk about these ideas at every opportunity.

Peres, in particular, and Economics Minister, Gad Ya'acobi, were plugging the theme of a one-billion dollar fund to be set up, run and maybe even controlled by foreign investors, both Jewish and gentile. In those days, it may be recalled, Scitex and Elscint were still big hits and the future of high-tech seemed bright.

About that time (see Barron's, the prestigious American financial weekly, November 12, 1984) Leroy Brenna launched the Strategic Israeli Fund, a new venture within the group of mutual funds that he managed from his Dallas, Texas, headquarters.

Brenna was aiming to attract a couple of hundred million dollars within two years, and use the money to invest primarily in technologically-oriented Israeli companies. Brenna was not a wide-eyed sucker, but a professional money-manager who was convinced that Israel offered exceptionally good, but little-known investment opportunities.

In the latest Barron's, (February 16, 1986), and under the headline "Why an Israeli Fund Bombed," the demise of Strategic Israeli is reported. "Brenna recently sold the fund," we are told, after his hopes were dashed by the brutal fact that, after more than a year, he had received only \$400,000 in total.

But the answer to the article's headline is not given. Brenna himself is described as "stumped" and having "zero idea." Despite having spent a lot of time talking to brokers in an effort to get them to sell his product, "no one wanted to sell it," so that he personally made 90% of the sales that were achieved. "I sold it to gentiles, Jews, even to one person who was anti-Semitic," Brenna is quoted as saying.

The fund, such as it was, had a poor record in its brief history, with its net asset value falling 17% during last year.

These results came as no surprise of course, given the miserable performance of most of the Israeli stocks traded in New York during 1985, and the "heavy-weights" — Elscint and Scitex — in particular. What is more shocking is the total lack of interest in Brenna's fund, despite the increasing popularity of one-country funds as an investment vehicle, as the Barron's piece goes on to outline. It would seem to be a vote of no-confidence in Israel and Israeli companies on the part of the U.S. investment community.

This impression is reinforced by speaking to some of the people in Israel who are most active in the field of attracting overseas investment to this country. Senior executives in the Discount Investment Company, for instance, recently told this reporter that — even after the stabilization of inflation and other economic progress made here in the last half-year — it is very difficult to persuade real investment money to come here.

Interestingly, Brenna himself has not changed his basic views on Israel's attractiveness to high-tech investors. He regards it as "the most overvalued investment situation in the world" and his fund as "a product before its time."

This may well be more than Texan tall tales. Brenna's attitudes are shared by many knowledgeable people here, notably Dan Tolkowsky — whose Athena Venture Capital Fund has succeeded in reaching its \$25m. target — and his old colleagues at DIC, whose negotiations with Shearson Lehman/American Express to set up another venture capital fund are continuing, notwithstanding the difficulties.

This basic optimism is still shared by Peres, Ya'acobi, Moda'i and all the others now engaged in the debate about how to generate growth.

The prime minister even expects the Americans to cough up some or all of the money for his projected funds, and will talk about this in Washington in April. He should nonetheless remember the fate of Strategic Israeli Fund when he makes his pitch; at the least he should tell it not in Dallas.

Setback follows more than a decade of profits

Scitex lost \$13m. last year

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Scitex lost approximately \$13 million in 1985, following more than a decade of profits. In 1984 profits were \$12m. and in 1983 \$9.5m.

This was stated yesterday by Efraim Arai, board chairman and chief executive officer of Scitex, Arthur Low, president, and Ben Zion Naveh, director-general.

The speakers said they thought that losses would continue during the first two quarters of 1986, and that the corporation would then move into a profit-making situation, earning enough to offset the losses of the first two quarters. Thus 1986 would be a "break-even" year.

Sales during the current year are expected to be about \$160m., compared to between \$130m. and \$135m. in 1985 and only \$104m. in 1984. The complete figures for 1985 will only become available in a few weeks.

Sales will continue to be to the same western countries as before: 55 per cent to the U.S., 35 per cent to Europe, and the rest scattered, but mainly to Japan.

About 60 per cent of sales will be

in the existing lines, computerized imaging systems used in printing and publishing, printed circuit boards, and equipment for seismic exploration industries.

The remaining 40 per cent will be in the corporation's "new generation" of products — which were developed during the past three and a half years at an expenditure of about \$25m. Scitex bases its hopes for many profitable years on these products.

They include a new line of engineering graphics computers, work stations and laser beam recorders, which will be demonstrated for the first time at an exhibition in California later this month. There are also new solid-state colour scanners with artificial intelligence, high-productivity work stations and high-speed laser plotters. These will be introduced at a trade show in West Germany in May.

The speakers said their losses were due to several causes: the government's shift in policy in 1985, which deprived the corporation of \$2m. to \$3m. in various forms of export incentives; a large write-off of inventory, including certain old-

generation products which could no longer be sold. This constituted more than half of the \$13m. loss. There was also severe credit competition abroad, in which Scitex had to meet terms for credit as long as five years. Finally, the company's diversification efforts in the markets of printed circuits, automation equipment and seismic evaluation systems, saw sales fall short of expectations.

The speakers noted that not only was the new product line expected to help move the company from a loss to a profit situation. But the economy steps taken during 1985 would also play their part. For example, some 230 permanent employees were dismissed (about 100 in Israel and 130 abroad), bringing the workforce down to 1,570 today. Despite this, productivity had increased, the speakers added.

In the last quarter of 1985, the bank debt was materially reduced. The corporation's cash position was also significantly improved through the early collection of receivables and through inventory reductions. On December 31, 1985, Scitex's books even showed that \$24m. in cash, was in hand.

Discount Bank of New York marking time

By PINHAS LANDAU
Israel Discount Bank of New York, the largest Israeli-owned American bank, reported net profits of \$16.3 million for 1985, marginally ahead of the \$16m. it reported in 1984.

The bank's balance sheet was similarly stable, advancing \$22m., to stand at \$3,733m. at the end of the year. Shareholders' equity grew by the amount of the bank's net profit and totalled \$176m., with another \$40m. of "secondary capital" in the

form of capital notes.

Deposits grew by 1.4% to \$3,455m., but loans to the public jumped by one-sixth, from \$840m. to \$980m. Even at this new level, however, the bank's loan portfolio remains small compared to its total assets. This indicates the continuation of the traditional and cautious approach that has characterized Israel Discount's U.S. subsidiary.

The failure to grow significantly, described by the bank as "stable and controlled development," is attri-

buted to the need to maintain a level of capital that is in line with the stricter capital: assets ratios instituted by U.S. regulatory authorities recently.

Counting secondary capital, IDB New York's ratio stands at 5.79%, and thus meets the current 6% requirement. However, bank management told *The Jerusalem Post* that the strategy is to continue improving profits on the same approximate balance-sheet total, thereby strengthening the capital base further.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	101.77	+0.82%
Non-Bank Index	111.21	+2.00%
Arrangement	97.54	+0.25%
Insurance	118.10	+1.48%
Commerce, Services	108.18	+1.27%
Real Estate	125.57	+2.08%
Textiles	107.14	+1.53%
Tobacco	127.42	+1.82%
Metals	104.34	+0.97%
Electronics	85.90	+0.21%
Chemicals	105.28	+1.68%
Industrial Invest.	114.74	+1.82%
Investment Cos.	118.84	+4.31%
General Bond Index	98.25	+0.03%
Index-linked Bonds	97.14	+0.14%
Fully-linked	98.18	-0.08%
Partially-linked	96.50	-0.28%
Dollar-linked Bonds	95.46	-0.40%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	97.42	-0.16%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	96.39	+0.02%
Long-term 5+ yrs	95.46	-0.15%

Turnovers:

Shares—total	NIS 7,753,000
Non-Bank	NIS 2,550,800
Arrangement	NIS 5,192,200
Bonds—total	NIS 3,457,100
Index-linked	NIS 1,842,400
Dollar-linked	NIS 1,614,700
Treasury Bills	NIS 678,000

Share Movements:	
Advances	231 (268)
Declines	66 (57)
Unchanged	15 (17)
of which 5%+	72 (37)
of which 5%—	17 (10)
"sell-off" only	3 (2)
Unchanged	83 (82)
Trading Halt	48 (46)

Bond Market Trends:	
Index-linked	Stable/rises to 0.5%
3% fully-linked	

4.25% fully-linked	Falls to 1%+slight rise
80% linked	Stable/slight rise
90% linked	Stable
Double-linked	Stable/rises to 1%
Dollar-linked	
Admiral	Falls to 1%
Rimon	Falls to 1.5%
Gibco	Falls to 0.5%
For. Curr.	Falls to 2%
Domesticated	
Treasury Bills	1.54% to 1.88%

Arrangement yields:	
IDB ord.	14.35%
Union 0.1	14.39%
Discount A	14.47%
Mizrahi r.	14.48%
General A	14.41%
Leumi stock	14.35%
Fin. Trade 1	13.36%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%
			1000HS change

Commercial Banks	
(not part of "arrangement")	
Maritime 1	791 1225
First Int'l	3115 4152
FIBI	3048 3808

Commercial Banks	
(part of "arrangement")	
IDB r.	74350 213
Union 0.1	85310 377
Discount	94700 196
Mizrahi	30540 689
Hapoalim r.	50460 1138
General A	130450 17
Leumi 0.1	32115 81
Fin. Trade	43801 1

Mortgage Banks	
Leumi Mort. r.	3750 870
Dev. Mort.	888 1203
Mishkan r.	1614 884
Tel Aviv r.	11300 25
Marav r.	1870 756

Financial Institutions	
Agri C	25500 4
Ind. Dev. DO	not trading
Ciel Leasing 0.1	5165 20

Insurance	
Avirat 0.1 r.	3500 294
Hassneh r.	2640 2951
Phoenix 0.1	1305 1276
Hamshar	5300 81
Menorah 1	5300 6
Sahar r.	2940 179
Zion Hold. i	9859 11

Trade & Services	
Meir Ezra	3500 102
Supersol 2	4250 84
Delek 1	3925 3147
Lightage	7479 67
Cold Storage	725 228
Don Hotels	3700 109
Yarden Hotel	2100 143
Hilton 1	7642 119
Team 1	1720 288

Real Estate, Building and	
Azoric	3330 5262
Eilon	981 1318
Africa Int. 0.1	not trading
Daniner	3240 1169
Prop. & Bldg.	2425 2618
Bayside 0.1	3735 515
ILDC r.	34300 229
Rassoco r.	2457 6.2
Mehadrin	11800 400
Hadarim	1111 3537

Industrials	
Dubek b	2705 1396
Ph-Ze 1	4080 1985
Sunfrost	4955 46
Elite	10390 333
Argamir	500 300
Argamir r.	6850 437
Delta G 1	4140 435
Maquetta 1	19400 12
Eagle 1	10450 244
Polgar 0.1	8620 536
Schoellerma	13450 214
Rogovin	2730 1000
Union 0.1 r.	12470 277
Is. Can Co. 1	512 2508
Zion Cabot	1808 320
Packer Steel	4271 96
Elbit 3 r	382000 27

Elron	342000 20
Art	38440 120
Ciel Electronics	2886 3151
Spectronix 1	1720 973
T.A.T. 1 r	3478 363
Ackersalm 1	1101 6.2
Agan 5	15300 40
Alliance	831 380
Dexter	3100 18
Enfiam	9505 49.0
Haifa Chem.	825 6206
Teva r	49500 125
Dead Sea r	12950 1122
Petrochem.	375 8298
Neca Chem.	3070 45
Wolton 1 r	7150 45
Hadera Paper	147000 91
Central Trade	6300 1328
Koor p	461000 2
Ciel Inds.	1319 8251

Investment Companies	
IDB Dev. r	3080 2656
Ellen	2195 1041
Afik 1	529 1248
Gahelot	1280 39
Israel Corp. 1	7200 724
Wolton 1 r	63880 1
Hapoalim Inv.	4350 960
Leumi Invest.	4200 1217
Discount Invest.	4250 2886
Mizrahi Invest.	8199 28
Ciel 10	2408 2364
Landeco 0.1	6400 10
Parna 0.1	6218 306

Oil Exploration	
Pez Oil Expl.	10580 27
J.O.E.L.	1201 1420

Abbreviations:	
s.o. sellers only	b buyer
b.o. buyers only	r registered

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FINANCIAL DATA: EUROPE, U.S.

Israel Money Markets February 20, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 2 1/2% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	LAST UPDATED	TAPAS	PAKAM 7-DAY	PAKAM 30-DAY
LEUMI	20.2	12-18%	7-18%	15-18%
HAPAOALIM	9.2	16-24%	16-24%	16-24%
DISCOUNT	20.2	10-18%	10-18%	12-24%
MIZRAHI	8.1	12-19%	12-24%	12-24%
FIRST INT'L	5.2	42-24%	14-24%	14-24%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Rates: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 58 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of February 19)

	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD	7.375	7.375	7.500
STG	11.500	11.250	11.125
DMK	3.875	3.875	3.875
SFR	3.125	3.250	3.250
YEN	4.375	4.125	4.125

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS	BANKNOTES	BANK OF ISRAEL Representative Rates
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1.4689	1.4841	1.4752
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	2.1395	2.1560	2.1531
GERMANY	MARK	0.6367	0.6446	0.6401
FRANCE	FRANC	2.072	2.058	2.074
HOLLAND	GULDEN	0.5338	0.5706	0.5657
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	0.7675	0.7770	0.7714
SWEDEN	KRONA	0.2006	0.2031	0.2016
NORWAY	KRONE	1.2038	1.2084	1.2051
DENMARK	KRONE	0.1726	0.1747	0.1735
FINLAND	MARK	0.2934	0.2988	0.2950
CANADA	DOLLAR	1.0546	1.0677	1.0617
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1.0364	1.0483	1.0415
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	0.7256	0.7346	0.7290
INDONESIA	RUPIAH	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025
BEIJING	FRANC	0.3075	0.3113	0.3114
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	181.1025	181.1025	181.1025
IRELAND	POUND	0.3355	0.3471	0.3406
JAPAN	YEN	0.0080	0.0080	0.0080
JORDAN	DINAR	—	—	—
EGYPT	POUND	—	—	—

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European Financial Markets

Precious Metals

GOLD:	LONDON	A.M. FIX	339.25	P.M. FIX	—
SILVER:	PARIS	NOON FIX	340.84	ZURICH P.M.	338.25
PLATINUM:	LONDON	FIX	590.25		
PALLADIUM:	LONDON	P.M.	388.25		
		P.M.	104.25		

FOREIGN CURRENCY CROSS RATES (London 15.30GMT)

Forward Rates	SPOT	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
POUND STERLING	1.4540/50	1.4571/53	1.4582/73	1.4593/85
DEUTSCHE MARK	2.3050/00	2.3050/00	2.3050/00	2.3050/00
SWISS FRANC	1.9180/00	1.9180/00	1.9180/00	1.9180/00
DUTCH GULDEN	2.6100/30	2.6100/30	2.6100/30	2.6100/30
FRENCH FRANC	7.0900/50	7.0900/50	7.0900/50	7.0900/50
JAPANESE YEN	181.1025	181.1025	181.1025	181.1025

THE JERUSALEM POST

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing DirectorErwin Frenkel
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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955; Editor 1955-1974: TED LURIE. Editor 1974-1975: LEA BEN DOR. EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION: The Jerusalem Post Building, Room 600, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81 (91000) Telephone 551616. Telex 26121. TEL AVIV 11 Rehov Carlebach, P.O. Box 20126 (61201) Telephone 294222. HAIFA 16 Rehov Norda, Hadar Ha'amet, P.O. Box 4810 (31047) Telephone 645444. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. Copyright of all material reserved, reproduction permitted only by arrangement.

Hussein pulls the plug

THE FACT that it was predictable does not diminish its dramatic impact: King Hussein's finally waving a bill of divorce in front of Yasser Arafat's eyes — even while broadly hinting that he might withdraw it if the PLO chairman soon enough saw the light. Seeing the light means accepting, without further demurrer, the American proposals for U.S. recognition of legitimate Palestinian rights and PLO participation in the peace process — in return for the PLO's endorsement of Resolution 242.

In his excruciatingly detailed account Wednesday night of his diplomatic efforts to regain the "lost lands" and secure Palestinian rights, Hussein put the blame for his failure squarely on Arafat's vacillation and double-dealing.

He did not renounce his acknowledgement of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. Nor did he repudiate the Amman agreement with Arafat last February. Yet he delivered Arafat a political body blow — without, at the same time, ruling out the possibility of reconciliation.

For the moment, though, the king would turn for support to friendly Arab states — and to the Palestinians in the occupied territories and in the diaspora.

Tearfully, Hussein conceded that, for the moment at least — which he termed forever — a golden opportunity to advance Arab aims by peaceful means had been lost. Yitzhak Rabin, in an instant response, thought rather that a golden opportunity had in fact been gained — for moderate Palestinian leaders to come forward and join Hussein in an effort to advance the cause of peace on the basis of the American proposals.

Unfortunately, this is reading Israeli hopes into Arab realities: after 19 years of prohibition on Arab political activity in the territories, there is no representative group of Palestinians that would fearlessly stand up to the PLO, disregarding threats to their lives. And, although Arafat's standing with "his" people in the West Bank and the Gaza District has doubtless been weakened, the majority of them are believed to be still with him. To them, he is not a terrorist commander but their political leader.

What lurks behind Arafat's dispute with Hussein, on the other hand, is continuing mutual suspicion, and it focuses on the simple question, who is to dictate to whom.

This is the practical meaning of the disagreement over the right of the Palestinians to self-determination. Hussein conceives of it as an internal matter to be settled by Jordanians and Palestinians among themselves once the lands have been "retrieved" from the Israeli occupier. That is why he supports the Americans in their insistence that the price of 242 should be legitimate rights, but not self-determination. But Arafat may have reason to suspect that this would tilt the balance of power within the mooted Jordanian-Palestinian confederation in Hussein's favour.

Perhaps, too, he wishes to secure in advance the right to secede from the confederation and to set up an independent PLO state — which Hussein may have cause to fear will seek a takeover of Jordan.

If the present rift does not endure it will be because Hussein and Arafat both realize that their fates are intertwined. Hussein is unwilling to go down in history as the Arab ruler who gave up any portion of Arab land to Israel, and he believes he needs Arafat's co-signature for any such concession. Arafat, for his part, knows full well that he could easily be cut off by Hussein from almost any access to his main base of support which is the territories.

But it is Hussein who is now riding high, while Arafat is caught undecided between the danger of a fatal split in PLO ranks and the risk of a counter-attack on the king. Hussein will make an expanded Jordanian parliament into a seemingly representative Palestinian body. He will raise his physical stake in the West Bank and the Gaza District. And he will go on courting his long-time friends in Cairo, Riyadh and Baghdad — while beating a path also to Damascus, whose ruler hates Arafat's guts. Although his purpose will be to force Arafat to accept Jordan's terms, he may be creating a fresh opportunity for peace talks.

If that opportunity emerges, it will be due decisively to the peace policy pursued by Shimon Peres and Hussein's justified fear that after the scheduled rotation of power in Israel there will be no one to negotiate with and nothing to negotiate about.

Seek and deploy

HIRSH GOODMAN

WITHIN 45 minutes of Yosef Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh being abducted in southern Lebanon on Monday afternoon, the Israel Defence Forces had several hundred men deployed north of the security zone. Within hours, the number swelled to several thousand, fanned out in 16 Shi'ite villages and all major roads and intersections in southern Lebanon, backed up by tanks, artillery and helicopters.

Last night they were still there. An undisclosed number from among the thousands questioned had been detained. They included two thought to be directly involved in the incident. Dozens of arms caches had been uncovered. But the primary task of finding the two missing men was still unaccomplished, and hope that it would be had almost completely faded.

From the outset, the chances of finding the two in the net of the IDF, in close cooperation with the South Lebanese Army, had cast through southern Lebanon were slim. Not only were the terrorists at large in an environment they knew intimately but, judging from the professional planning that had gone into the ambush, it was assumed that their escape had been carefully planned too.

There were also serious doubts as to whether Fink and Alsheikh could have survived the ambush. The car in which the two soldiers were travelling was riddled with bullet holes, and the pools of blood where the two had been sitting indicated that they had been badly wounded in the attack. It was assessed that they would have needed urgent and expert medical attention to survive. When their dog-tags and identity papers, but not their pictures, were released by the terrorists in Beirut on Monday night, fears for their safety increased.

DESPITE THIS, and despite the objective difficulties in finding the two and their abductors, the huge search operation was launched and sustained. With each passing hour the risk of destabilizing the delicate status quo on the northern front grew. Another risk was the possibility of more Israeli casualties during the operation.

It also had to be taken into account that the Shi'ites, both in the security zone and north of it, might be forced into action against the IDF lest they be accused of cooperating with Israel. Adding to the complications was the risk of escalation, with Unifil and with the Druze, and — particularly if Israel extended its operation in the direction of the Bekaa — with the Syrians.

The hazards were well known to the policy-makers who decided on the operation. As soon as it became clear that it was Hizbollah that was involved, and not one of the Syrian surrogates with which Amal has close ties, the business of tracking down the terrorists without local opposition and without risking escalation with the Syrians was made easier.

When, on Tuesday, it became apparent that the two men, if they

were alive, had not been taken to the Bekaa, the chances of escalation with the Syrians decreased further. The only real danger facing the IDF by the end of the week was that perhaps Israel and the SLA were beginning to outstay their "welcome" north of the security zone.

DEFENCE MINISTER Yitzhak Rabin seemed acutely aware of this when he appeared on television's *Moked* programme on Wednesday night. Rabin has not forgotten, nor does he underestimate, the potential of Shi'ite terror. When he first came into the Defence Ministry in 1984, when the IDF was still deployed in the heart of the Shi'ite villages in the south, one of his favourite phrases was "the Shi'ite genie that popped out of the bottle to plague Israel." He remembers vividly the steadily increasing madness and venom of Shi'ite attacks against the IDF — attacks that ultimately forced the army to retreat from Lebanon under a cloud.

What was at risk as a result of Monday's ambush and its subsequent developments was Rabin's policy for the defence of northern Israel. To all intents and purposes, the security zone concept has been successful in buffering the Galilee from terrorist attack, and despite dire predictions to the contrary, the security zone itself has been relatively stable, notwithstanding its ethnic

and religious tensions. A protracted stay by the IDF north of the security zone — no matter how beneficial the immediate by-products — would almost certainly rouse the dormant "genie" of mass Shi'ite terror and force renewed unity between Amal and the radical and fundamentalist extremes of the Shi'ite community.

It was therefore decided early on that while the life of every soldier is sacrosanct, Israel's responses in Lebanon had to be conditional upon the possibility, however slight, that the two missing men could be found alive in the area of operation. If it became clear beyond reasonable doubt that this was not the case, the IDF would leave the area and redeploy along its previous lines, hopefully leaving the status quo ante undisturbed.

THE PROBLEM is that there are some, like the SLA commander, General Antoine Lahad, who see this latest incident as a way of changing the status quo. In interviews on Wednesday, Lahad said that the ambush proved that the security zone would have to be extended to "its logical border" on the Litani River.

Such a move would not only incorporate predominantly Shi'ite villages outside the current security zone, but would necessitate the injection of more Israeli forces on a permanent basis to help the general control his new acquisition.

Hopefully, Lahad's advice will fall on deaf ears. There is nothing to be

gained from deeper involvement in Lebanon other than more Israeli casualties, and thankfully this seems to be the position of the senior military echelons.

What this week's incident has proved is not that the security zone concept has failed, but that if Israel needs to respond to a specific challenge it can do so massively and quickly from south of the Israel-Lebanese border.

Just as important, it has demonstrated that if challenged, Israel will respond, and that the threats made by our policy-makers that there will either be peace on both sides of the border or on neither side of the border, are credible.

Israel launched this huge campaign to try and find two soldiers not only because the IDF has a special commitment to its men (and one should not underestimate the power of that commitment in the moulding of policy), but because Israel could not afford to allow this attack to go unchallenged. Passivity would have been interpreted as weakness, and weakness would have invited more attacks.

In order to preserve the delicate balance on which the security of the north rests, the IDF had to show disproportionate muscle. But now, unless there is a realistic chance of finding Yossi Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh, the point has been made. To protract the massive deployment of forces in Lebanon, let alone take the advice of General Lahad, could only be counter-productive.

The imperative of growth

MEIR MERHAV

ECONOMIC GROWTH is an imperative for social democrats all over the world; and for Zionist social democrats it is a matter of national survival. Social democrats do not intend to overturn the capitalist system, but to save it from itself and make it tolerable by mitigating its social inequities.

When external circumstances force social democrats to accept a policy of "retrenchment," with mounting unemployment, increasing disparities of income distribution and the erosion of social services, they lose their function as the saviours or correctors of the economic system. For the implementation of neo-conservative policies there is, as voters everywhere quickly realize, no need for social democrats or socialists. One might as well vote for the genuine article, at least until disenchantment sets in.

If economic growth is the condition for the political survival of social democrats everywhere, in Israel it is a condition for the survival of Zionism and of the State of Israel itself. The days are gone when Jews in spiritual or physical distress had nowhere to go but to Israel, as the history of the Jewish exodus from the Soviet Union in the past decade and a half has shown.

Without a rising standard of living, the offer of gainful employment, without peace, without a quality of life better than other havens can offer, there is no hope for aliya, and every inducement for yerida. With-

out growth, there is no hope that the crippling defence burden distorting our socio-economic structure, diverting creativity into sterile arms production and perverting ethical norms, can be reduced at least relatively.

THE REVIVAL of growth is therefore an imperative for Zionist social democrats. But not for those whose Zionist vision extends no further than Jabotinsky's "iron wall," who accept conflict and war as Israel's permanent condition and whose concept of building a nation is renovated 19th-century capitalism mitigated by populist charity for its victims.

That is the irreconcilable clash between Labour and the Likud. Such shameful squabbles as last Sunday's cabinet meeting not only trivialize it, but divert attention from its essence.

THE ARGUMENTS against renewing growth are surrounded by myths. One stresses that the stability so impressively achieved is fragile. Of course it is. In any country, under any economic conditions, stability can easily be undone, and particularly so in Israel, with its history of rampant inflation. All that is necessary is for the government to start pumping cash into the economy.

The second myth is that any real and sound growth must wait for a "structural transformation" of the economy. Reducing the government

sector will shift employment to production of internationally tradeable goods and services. Government expenditure will shrink, resources will be released for investment, and those thrown out of public sector employment will be reabsorbed by the private, hopefully export-oriented sector. That too is largely a myth.

True, we need more international tradeable output. But that does not mean that we need more workers in the sectors that will produce it. The contrary may be closer to what we need — higher productivity, which means more output per worker, or fewer workers for a given output. But even if we should need more workers, it won't be the teachers, social workers and government clerks that are to be fired. They will just remain unemployed. And if we starve our institutions of funds for scientific research and technical education, we shall have no workers for growth.

There is a third myth, that if only the government would lessen its monopolization of the capital market, and let private firms borrow some of the public's savings, business enterprises would rush to avail themselves of the opportunity. At what rate of interest? For what expected long-term rate of profit? In what framework of stability, political

conditions, real wage rates, taxation, prices and exchange rates?

A FOURTH myth is that growth needs next to no investment, that there is much under-utilized productive capacity.

When the government's stability rests on the immobility of rotation and the ability of the major coalition partners to block each other's initiatives, is that a political framework for growth? If a Bank of Israel governor declares that the long-term target for real interest rates is 25 per cent a year, how much must industry earn to compete with the rates at which the government borrows? If taxes are subject to the whim of an erratic finance minister, who decides overnight to adjust or not to adjust tax brackets, to block, delay or to release budget allocations at will, to pass on or not to pass on price overruns to adjust or not to adjust oil — then what set of stable rules of the game is there for renewing growth?

When the present coalition government was formed, the demand put upon the Labour Party was to "deliver" the Histadrut's acquiescence in a reduction of real wages as the major instrument of economic stabilization. Labour and the Histadrut delivered beyond all expectations.

Labour and the Histadrut must be able to promise that the sacrifices

they have demanded of their constituency will be vindicated by a renewal of economic growth, that the initial social injustices of the economic recovery programme will to some extent be redressed, that the inevitable rise of unemployment will be held in check.

FORTUITOUS external circumstances have made it easier than was originally foreseen to embark without delay on the renewal of economic growth. But what kind of growth? If Labour believes that growth can be instantaneous, that unemployment can be reduced in short order, that ailing firms can be bailed out indiscriminately, it is either out to undo all it has so stoutly supported since the so-called national unity government was formed, or is deluding itself and its constituency.

The resources are now available to promote long-term growth, as well as to reduce unemployment where it has hit hardest, and to correct the inequalities of income distribution produced by the first round of the economic policy. But time is against us, and the resources we now have for growth will not be there tomorrow, or will be dissipated if we do not invest them now in growth.

Labour must clarify what growth it has in mind, and what it can faithfully promise. Instant growth and full employment tomorrow are as much a myth as anything propagated by the stagnationists.

POSTSCRIPTS

P.S. KNESSET MEMBER Mordechai Virshupski's call for the revival of the satirical TV programme *Nikui Rosh* (Headcleaning), taken off the air nearly a decade ago, would probably have had the support of the third-century Talmudic sage Rabbi Shimon ben Lakish, better known as Resh Lakish. At least qualified support.

A certain Yossef of Maon, near Tiberias, which was then the seat of the Jewish autonomous authority, delivered a somewhat sarcastic anti-establishment sermon that angered Yehuda Nessim, the "chief rabbi" of that time. The Mishnah (Bereshit Rabba 80:1) tells us that Resh Lakish came to mollify Yehuda, and said

to him: "Master, we ought to be grateful to the gentiles for bringing clowns to the theatres who poke fun at the leaders, thereby providing the masses some release of their anger at the leaders, so that they don't get involved in revolutionary conspiracies."

The trouble was, however, that Yossef didn't know when to stop. Yehuda was mollified and asked Yossef to come and thrash the matter out in person. Yossef repeated his charge in an even sharper parable, and Resh Lakish said to him: "I've hardly finished placating Yehuda Nessim over one insult, and you come along with a fresh one!"

We are not told what finally happened to Yossef.

M.K.

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LANIADO HOSPITAL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — In London we can get an emergency doctor. After several priority phone calls, we are fortunate if he arrives within an hour. If the patient is still alive, there comes the problem of waiting for an ambulance.

During the first week of my holiday (in December) in Netanya, I had a heart attack. Within minutes my wife had a doctor with me. Within five minutes, so I was told, the fantastic Magen David Adom with its medical team was trying to bring my soul back to the living.

The Laniado Hospital may not be the height of luxury, but I feel that nowhere can there be such a "Jewish" hospital, with its dedicated religious consultants and staff. The intensive coronary-care unit has the

efficiency of a military operation. Languages present no difficulties: whether it be Yiddish, English, French, German, Polish, Hungarian, Russian, and probably others, each is spoken fluently enough to make the meaning clear.

Then, of course, comes Erev Shabbat. Although the wards are cleaned in the morning, and the linen changed, from about 2 p.m., everything is cleaned again, the linen changed, and candles put in every ward to bring in the Shabbat. It reminded me of the peace and quiet of an experience I had in Eilat some years back snorkelling among the coral reefs — no sound but an inspiring beauty. The happy greeting of "Shabbat Shalom" is a welcome sound in one's ears all day long.

Netanya (London). JOE ELSTEIN

MORMON LOVE-IN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — A decade ago, the Calgary Jewish Community was subjected to a Mormon "love-in." The Church indicated no motivation other than brotherly love. There wasn't enough that they could do for our community and Israel. The Mormons even bought a JNF project!

The suspicions of our community as to their intent were confirmed on the last evening of this effort. The entire Calgary Jewish Community was invited to a gala concert. The finale of this evening, attended by the Mormon community and fortunately virtually none of the Jewish community, was an impassioned plea for conversion by an apostate Jew flown in from the U.S.A.

So much for Mormon guarantees! M.N. LEVANT

Calgary, Canada.

MACCABI REUNION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The Aliya and Absorption Committee of Maccabi World Union is a voluntary group which provides sporting, social, moral and practical support for Maccabi olim from all parts of the globe.

Since the formation of this committee some 12 months ago, we have been in constant touch with representatives of our 300,000 members overseas, who supply us with names and addresses of current Maccabi immigrants. But now we are anxious to contact all Maccabi members or ex-members whether they be new olim or oldtimers.

To start this Maccabi contact, we

intend holding a gala reunion at Kfar Maccabiah Country Club.

For further information and date of reunion, please contact Denise Freedman, Maccabi World Union, Kfar Maccabiah, Ramat Gan, telephone 03-715726.

JOE ROSEN
Chairman, Maccabi Aliya and Absorption Committee
Ramat Gan.

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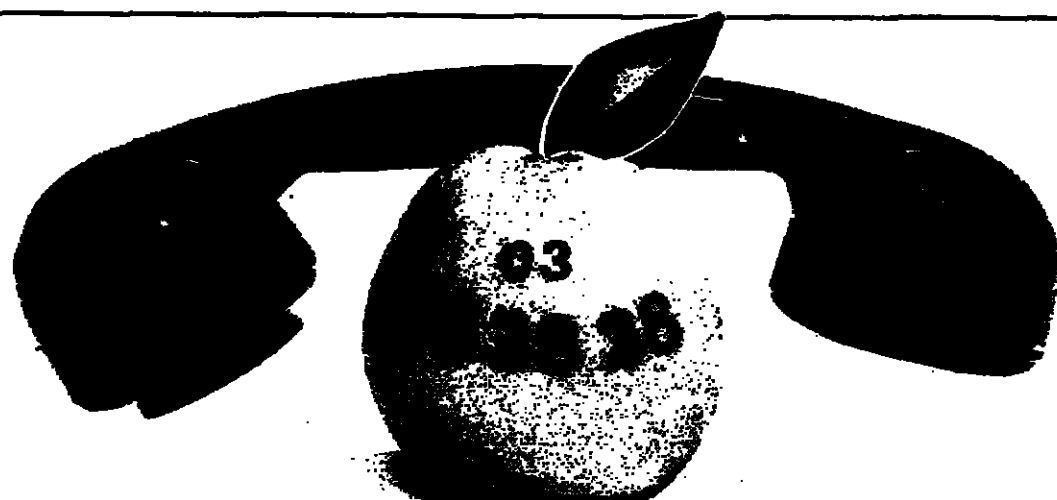
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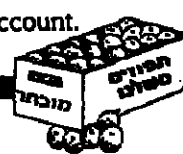
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